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ACADEMY
OF
PACIFIC COAST HISTORY

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

1919

[August 11, 1851]

strength—he also dresses in a dark col^d clothes not peculiar enough to give a description of—

John Ryan—Is of about the same height and build as Osman. Keeps a low gray shop in Monterey, is a Tinsman by trade and when disengaged fights with a woman whom he calls his Wife. he works at his business a little—he is the man whom Stuart said "was the only one who made anything by the Monterey robbery"²—he has a most villainous cast of countenance and its plainly to be seen on his face and by his bearing where he comes from and who he is.

Has dark hair slightly grayed and was brought up in the Parish of St. Giles of vice of the whole World from whence he emigrated to Van Dieman Land some years ago of course by the order of the British Government—he came to Monterey has been there every since with the exception of a few visits to San Francisco the last of which they accompanied him to Monterey Osman, Briggs and

Matthews—has been a resident of Monterey some years—has gray hair and is about forty years of age—his house was the rendezvous of all of the above and he is evidently an accomplice of theirs—at the time of trial for robbing the C. H. at Monterey he furnished bail for the prisoners—he is said to be an escaped Convict from V. D. Land—

Whittriker—Is now in the hands of the V. C. it is therefore not necessary to give any description of him—He was in Monterey in company with all of the above at the time of the trial in Monterey—W. came down in company with Carlyle also Stuart for the purpose of swearing to the previous good character of the prisoners—which they both did—Stuart was sworn and gave his testimony under the name of Carlyle withheld the name which he now bears—

Quick—Was also arrested in Monterey he being concerned with the others for robbing C. H. there—he has a very decidedly rascally countenance, one which a beholder would turn from with repugnance—when last seen by the writer, he wore heavy

² See also pp. 247 and 273.

[August 11, 1851]

strength—he also dresses in a dark cold clothes not peculiar enough to give a description of—

John Ryan—Is of about the same height and build as Osman Keeps a low grog shop in Monterey, is a Tinman by trade and when disengaged fights with a woman whom he calls his Wife he works at his business a little—he is the man whom Stuart said “was the only one who made anything by the Monterey robbery”²—he has a most villainous cast of countenance and tis plainly to be seen on his face and by his bearing where he comes from and who he is.

Has dark hair slightly curled and was brought up in the Parish of St Giles, London, the hot bed of vice of the whole World from whence he emigrated to Van Diemens Land some years ago of course by the agency of the British Government—he came to Monterey about two years ago and has been there every since with the exception of occasional visits to San Francisco the last of which there accompanied him to Monterey Osman, Briggs and Morgan and shortly after the Custom House was robbed there—

—Matthews—has been a resident of Monterey some years—has grey hair and is about forty years of age—his house was the rendezvous of all of the above and he is evidently an accomplice of theirs—at the time of trial for robbing the C. H. at Monterey he furnished bail for the prisoners—he is said to be an escaped Convict from V. D. Land—

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² See also pp. 241 and 475.

[August 11, 1851]

black whiskers terminating at the corners of his mouth, has a remarkably low and shelving forehead—his two front teeth protrude from the mouth when opened his whole cast forms a profile worthy of a Demon—

He was bailed out by Matthews and came to San Francisco and was under arrest here at the time of his trial in Monterey—when the *day* of his trial came on he broke Jail at San F. and the writer has not heard or seen anything of him since—

All of the above may be known to be suspicious characters and to have come from Sydney by any one accustomed to seeing them—they all have the peculiarities of that class of People both in manner and speech with the exception of Osman who by a little disguise can pass for an English Gentleman—

[Signed] Edw. L. Williams

San Francisco Aug. 11. 1851.

[Report in Relation to Headquarters]

To The executive Committee

Gentlemen Your Committee appointed last night for the purpose of calling on the proprietors of the rooms now occupied by this body, beg leave to report that the duty assigned them has been attended to, and that the rooms can still be held by the Vigilence Committee for the Sum of two hundred dollars pr month They,—the proprietors—reserving the right to let them to other parties upon giving five days notice to this body.

San Francisco August 11/51.

Respectfully Your Ob^t Svts.

[Signed] E, Gorham

“ James C. L. Wadsworth

[Annotated:] Adopted

ordered that Whittaker be allowed other feed than bread & water

[Letter from the Secretary of the Stockton Vigilance Committee]

Stockton Aug 11th 1851.

Mr. W. C. Graham

Secretary San Francisco Vigilance Committee

Dear Sir There is a suspicious looking character in this

[August 11, 1851]

City by the name of James Smith, he is a tall man Say Six foot. Light hair, thin face strong, muscular wears at present a black surtout coat, brown California hat, has a Large mouth, A man by the name of Brunny is his chum, Smith was in Jail in San Francisco charged with being in a bed room under a bed he was arrested about six weeks since McElroy is the Officer who knows all [about the transaction³]

Yours Respectfully

[Signed] D. G. Sharps Secretary
Stockton Vigilance Committee

[Notice]

Sir

You are requested to appear before the Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance and testify all you know in relation to one Sam Whittaker at 7½ OClock

Done by order of the Executive

August 11th 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest Wm C Graham

Secty. Ex. Com.

[Annotated:] Messrs Payne & Pheelan will be present this evening at 7½

[Signed] J. B. Evans

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Genl Meeting Aug 12, 1851

Capt L Tuffs called to the Chair [Geo R Ward App^d Secy
p T]¹

Minutes of previous meeting read & approved

On motion a Committee of 2 were appointed to wait upon the Ex Com Mr Haven & Mr Atkinson were appointed the Com

³ Illegible.

[August 12, 1851]

On motion of Mr Cartwright

Resolved—That all members who have not paid their fees & fines be requested so to do

On motion of Mr Haven

Resolved That the list of delinquent members be read—
Mr Atkinson proceeded to read the same—Report of Ex Com in regard to leasing the room at present occupied by Com for the sum of 200\$ [adopted¹]

Communication of Ex Com addressed to the Governor of N South Wales in reference to Patrick Wild alias Wyse read—referred back to Ex Com

On motion That Mr Cartwright be appointed a Com to recall the Document addressed to the Governor of N S Wales [Carried.¹]

Report of Ex Com in relation to Aaron Gainsborg—referred back to Ex Com—

On motion A Com of 3 be appointed to investigate the Case of Mr J L Bleakley said to be expelled by order of Ex Com—
Havens, Atkinson & Panton CommitteeOn motion *Resolved* that no person be allowed to leave the room that have not paid their duesOn motion—The Committee in relation to Brig *Dorset*² be referred to Ex Com [passed¹]

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS.

[Resolution]

Resolved that the Executive Com^e: be requested to form and present to the Committee for their acceptance a new organization or modus operandi by which the duties of the Com^e may be performed

[Annotated:] Aug 12 laid on table

[Order to Treasurer]

The Treasurer is hereby requested by the Executive Commit-

¹ The words enclosed in brackets are from a draft of the Minutes in Mr. Ward's handwriting.² See p. 499.

[August 12, 1851]

tee to pay over to Mr Oakes the Amount of Special Deposit set forth in the annexed Certificate³

Done by order of

the Executive Committee

August 12 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Attest W^m C Graham

Presdt of Ex Com

Sect^y of Ex Com

[Letter from V. W. Hearne. Case of Sam Whittaker]

To The Committee of Vigilance of the City of San Francisco,

Gentlemen Having observed in the publication, of the Confession of Stewart, some few weeks since, that one Samuel Whittaker had been connected with him in his nefarious operations: and having learned, that said Whittaker had recently arrived in the County of which I am the Sherriff; and deeming it my duty if possible, to arrest, and place him in the hands of the proper authorities; I endeavored, and succeeded in effecting his arrest, and transported him to this City.

While endeavoring here, to place him in charge of the Sherriff of this County, he was taken into custody by some of the members of your Committee; and here of course, my efforts necessarily terminated.

The Capture, & Conveyance of Whittaker to this place, has been accomplished solely at my own personal expense, which I am but poorly able to bear; I therefore respectfully submit it to your Committee, whether, or not, you will remunerate me for said expenses; the amount of which is \$150⁴

I remain gentlemen

Very Respectfully

Your Ob^t Servant

[Signed] Valentine W Hearne

Sheriff of Santa Barbara Co

Cal^a

San Francisco August 12th 1851

³ The certificate mentioned is missing.

⁴ The Committee reimbursed Hearne by paying \$135 for the passage of the sheriff, his deputy and Whittaker between Santa Barbara and San Francisco. See voucher No. 40, p. 781.

[August 12, 1851]

[Letter from R. B. Sharp]

Sact—Aug 12th 1851

Wm Woodward

Dear Sir you will please keep a good Lookout for *James Grayham* of Batto. he is charged with the Murder of his pardner a Mr Lesby—which occurance took place in Green Wood Valley yesterday morning. I left Green Wood last night at dark with a state warrant for him and examined every house at Salmon falls—and got on his track, and I suppose he will be in Sanfrancisco by one of the steamers, he has robbed Mr Lesby of \$750.00[?] if you should find him bring him to Green Wood valley and you will be amply rewarded.

in haste

Yours With Sentiments of Regard.

[Signed] R.[?] B. Sharp

proprietor Green Wood Cottage

Middel fork American River

[Addressed:] in haste

Mr William Woodward police

or—the Vigilance Committee

Sanfrancisco Cal

from R B Sharp

Doct Randall. Letter from San Diego

San Diego Cal—

August 5th 1851

I, N, Thorn Esq

My Dear Sir I first saw about July 23d or 25th at Santa Barbara the Confession of Stuart, and it is only on yesterday that I saw the suppressed portions, and the attempt made by candidates for office, at the *vindication* of Wm Roach the Sheriff's Character and connection with the persons that Robbed me, I will make some statements to the Vigilance Committee as soon as I return, in regard to the Sheriff at Monterey that will show that the evidence of Stuart in regard to him, was not probabbly verry incorrect notwithstanding some (*being caught in bad company*) are trying to whitewash him, for they have favors to ask, (*it is about election times*) or are equally deep in the *mud*; I

[August 12, 1851]

know them *all well*, and I don't believe there is so corrupt a *clique* extant in any civilised country as exist in Monterey of which officers of the County are concerned—

R, E, Osman and woman or wife left here yesterday on the steamer bound for Panama with another man that came here with him, there remains here three men and two women that came here with them one of them has one or two children, Jim Briggs and John Morriss Morgan left on a Panama Steamer some three weeks ago the precise date I can give when I arrive at Los Angeles,

I hope to be in San Francisco in the course of two or three weeks,

Yours Truly

[Signed] A, Randall⁵

I open this letter to say, that I think *McIntyre* and *McCarty* are persons I think that made *overtures* to me in relation to the Robbery of me, I can tell as soon as I see them,

R

[Addressed:]

I. N. Thorn Esq

San Francisco

Cal

[Endorsed:] Rec^d Aug 12, 1851

Harriet Langmeade Statement. August 12th 1851

Harriet Langmeade [*Sw[orn]*] I was Born in Hammer-smith Middlesex near London, I am about thirty nine years of age, Myself and Sister Emigrated to Launceston Van Dieman's Land about the year 1838, I left England in the Ship *Charles Kerr* Capt Arnold I left Van Dieman Land in the Ship *David Malcolm* and arrived in the month of December A D 1849 I have lived in San Francisco since 1849 I came with my Husband to San Francisco and worked at the Fremont Hotel, my Husband desired me to prostitute my body for his support which I refused to do, he (my husband) went to the mines, after which I became acquainted with Capt Arrentrue and I went to live said Snow that he did not know the Cartman nor where the

⁵ See note 36, pp. 235-236.

[August 12, 1851]

with him at his Office in the Plaza, he was then Street Commissioner, I remained there about three or four months, I became disgusted with such an idle life, I then took a House near the American Hotel, and took in with me a man and his wife by the name of Hunter, and we took in washing—I still lived with Arrentrue, I then commenced Dress Making at a House next the New York Hotel, then I lived in an old House in Dupont Street where I lived three or four months and was there confined Doctor Parker attended me, child is Dead, I then took a room over Raphael Restaurant Sacramento Street, I lived there two or three months, from thence I removed to the Bath House on same Street, and I then took a Store opened a Saloon which I sold out, I then kept the Byron House about six weeks, from thence I went into Merchant Street and commenced Dress Making, I was there about a fortnight when the Rowdies broke into my House and destroyed all my property, I then went into Kearney Street above Sacramento Street—where I lived about five weeks and was burned out, after the Fire, I went down to my Washerwoman Tent and staid a day or two, afterwards I was invited by Mr^s Hogan to stop at her House, I was there a few days Arrentrue was then with me, Arrentrue had no money, I supported him for a year I left Arrentrue, and went up to Stockton with a view of doing business, about two weeks, since, after getting to Stockton I heard that Arrentrue was arrested I came down immediately and stopped at Bailey's One or two nights, finding that I could do nothing for him, I left again for Sonoro,

I went to see Mr^s Hogan at the time of Stuart's Execution, so as to learn the truth of his Statement, as to Arrentrue, she asked me if I did not know Whittaker, the man who kept Belcher Kay's Company, This man Whittaker shot at me because B Kay had his head cut open for insulting me, the ball knocked a Lamp down without injury to me, *Whittaker brought in.* I know him he is the man who shot at me, I heard Arrentrue say that he had quit T. B. Kay's company, this is all that I know of Whittaker, T. B. Kay insulted me at my own house, a man by the name of Tooig cut B. Kay's head open for the insult, I do not [know?] any of the Persons inquired of to wit Kay, Edwards,

[August 12, 1851]

Osman, Morgan, Stuart MacKenzie, Mr^s Hogan told me that she had foiled the Committee in relation to the Likeness of Whit-taker, that she had secreted the Likeness and the Committee could not find it, I know nothing unexceptionable to Capt Arrentrue, other than that of drinking

[Statement of Lucy Fry]

Lucy Fry states that she came passenger on board three masted Sch^r *Major Tompkins* which left New Orleans 8th day of August 1849. Cap^{tn} Samuel Deuprey[?] bound to California

I found out immediately that Miss Moran was on board, she was brought on board by Mr Dugan she told me that she had altered her way of life & was now married to Cap^t Deuprey—

At Rio de Jenerio he informed the Gentlemen passengers that she was his wife—

We stopped at Valpariso—Callio—about [. . .] days out from Callio a lady passenger a Chilianian came to the passengers in the Steerage stating that the Cap^{tn} had insulted her & that he had threatened that in case she did not consent to his wishes he would throw her overboard, that one of the passengers an Elderly gentleman gave her his berth & slept upon the table in the Steerage that early one morning the Captain came into the Steerage & took her by the arm & led her on deck after which she never was seen—a man at the wheel a sailor by the name of W^m Ray stated that he seen the Cap^{tn} throw her overboard—this W^m Ray was in San Francisco about a month or six weeks ago.—

The treatment of Cap^t Deuprey was of the most brutal character that he struck another lady passenger & knocked one of her teeth out.— he struck Mr Ross & several other passengers & abused all on board more or less—me he never struck but often cursed

her
Lucy X Fry
mark

August 12th 1851

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1851

MINUTES

[*Minutes of Executive Committee August 13, 1851*]

Wednesday Evening August 13th 1851

Present. Payran, Ryckman, Garwood, Bluxome, Bromley
Schenck, Wadsworth, Gorham

The Statement of Sam Whittaker having been read to Mrs Hogan she stated that as far as she was able to judge from conversations she had heard to be true,—after which she was discharged.—

In the case of W^m Cummings for the theft of two sophias—Sam^l A Snow—John Middleton—Smiley Smith Sherman were examined as per testimony on record filed

In the case of H. W^m Lovegood for Larceny.

[The following endorsement relates to August 21. See note 2, p. 507.]

George Robinson part owner of the cargo of the *President* (ship) from Launceston to Monterey & thence to Sanfrancisco, once before this Committee, T. B. Mc Manus testified in his behalf,

Richard Hawdon late clerk to G Robinson testifies, that he knows parties that know he G. R— to have been a convict and has a general pardon, and is about to leave for Sydney in Iron Schooner *Titan*—he under valued his goods in his invoices & had to pay a much higher appraisment,

A man called Thomas Taylor alias Moses Moss a Convict goes along with him, they threatened the Clerk with assault

R. Hawdon is to be found opposite the Star house on Long Whf, near Tobin & Duncan

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Complaint against William Cummings*]

W^m Cummings constable of San Francisco went to the House of Samuel Snow upholsterer & paper hanger to assist in moving his things at the time of the June fire he ingaged a carman and toled him to take the things to his stable and secret them and not to let anyone see them in the meane time he said to the said Snow that he did not know the Cartman nor where the

[August 13, 1851]

things had gone to &c he had the things carried to Middleton & Smiley store and sold By his order and kept the money and Refused to give any account of them &c Mr Shurman the express man will give you the cartman name and where he can be found at any time he is at J Riddle store corner of Clay st & Montgomery st the things was Bought By Mr E. Neuman in Clay st near Stockton St left hand side as you go up Clay st

[Signed] T. C. Kilborn

[Notice]

Samuel Snow

Mr Sherman

You are requested to appear before the Committee this Evening at 8 OClock to testify in a certain case now pending before them and herein fail not

By order of the Executive
Committee Aug 13th 1851

[Signed] S Payran

[Annotated:] Witnesses Examined

[Report of D. L. Oakley. Case of William Lovegrove]

The following charges can be proved in the case of W^m Lovegrove

Stealing a large quantity of tallow from Mr Fuller.—

Stealing Lumber and building his house with it—

Stealing a boat from a British Ship and altering and repainting her so as to render irrecoznizable.

For carrying out of this town and secreting a large quantity of valuable goods at the May fire

For stealing a Gun, boat & other articles from a boy and depriving the said boy of his liberty, and making him, aid in the theft of the Tallow above alluded to.

His house is a rendezvous of a gang which keep the neighborhood in a state of perpetual fear.

[Signed] D L Oakley

Aug 13th

No. 418

[Addressed:]

To the Ex-Committee

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 1851

MINUTES

[Minutes of Executive Committee August 14, 1851]

Executive Chamber

Thursday Morning Aug 14 1851

Present, Payran—Ryckman,—Oakes, Bluxome,—Graham,—

The examination of Hayes & Mc Kenzie was further gone into, as per records filed.— Adjourned to meet at 7½ O'clock.—

[Signed] W^m C Graham Sect^y

Thursday Evening Aug^t 14th 1851

Present— Payran,— Schenck,— Bluxome,— Ryckman,— Brindley,—Wadsworth Oakes,—Graham,—

W^m Cummins was brought before the Committee and after a full investigation the parties not wishing the affair, as it was of so trifling a nature, to go before the Authorities, he was discharged.—

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

Complaint filed against the Brig E. Randall, Capt Cole

[Copy of] Ticket

Berth M— San Francisco August 15th 1851

Received of Mr J. S. Riley forty dollars for one passage on Brig *E Randolph* to Mazatlan—

\$40— Signed C. A. Smith Agent

There were 60 Persons took passage on this Brig some as early as the 7th of August price paid from 40 to \$60—we went on Board, a Captain Cole was Commander we examined the Custom House register and found she was owned by a Capt Tucker, we reported this to this Captain Tucker, he denied it and said he was not the owner &c, the vessel is making no preparation for Sea, E. J. Folsom came on Board and said he was the owner, gave us no satisfaction claimed to be the owner, now states

[August 15, 1851]

that he has a Power of Attorney to sell, Cole has cleared out, we are detained and our Money lost

[Endorsed:] Folsom resides at the Corner of Powell & Broadway

Capt Tucker

There is \$500 deposited with Argenti—

Allen J. Gladding

[Resignation of W. C. Graham]

San Francisco 15th August 1851.

To the Ex Committee

Gentⁿ You will confer a favor upon your humble servant by accepting this my resignation from your honorable body as circumstances require my attention in other quarters

With much respect

I remain Your Obt St

[Signed] W^m C Graham

[Addressed:]

To President & Members of the Executive Committee

[Report on Robert McKenzie]

Executive Chamber August 15th 1851

In the matter of Robert Mackenzie or Kinney in charge of the Committee, implicated with Sam Whittaker, Stuart and others, as accomplice and confederate with them in crime, whereby much loss and damage has taken place

Your Committee respectfully represent that they have had much difficulty with the Prisoner by reason of his obstinacy, in his first examinations being guilty of lies and prevarication, whereby the patience of your Committee have been severely put to the test, nevertheless, the final examination of the Prisoner has brought to light the fact of his being one of the gang of accomplices, and your Committee verily believe that Mackenzie has suppressed much,

Your Committee are solemnly of opinion that the said Mackenzie is a hardened offender, and dangerous to this community, that like Whittaker it would be unsafe to hand him

[August 15, 1851]

over to the Authorities or mete out to him a less Penalty than Death

[We therefore recommend that the Prisoner be condemned to suffer Death on Monday the 18th inst at One OClock P. M. that the Sentence be passed this night, and that he receive the Benefit of Clergy and that the Executive Committee be kept in Session until 12 OClock of Sunday night the 17th to receive communications from Prisoner.¹]

[Signed] S Payran
Presdt of Ex Com

Attest W^m C Graham Secy

Confession of Robert McKensie or Kinney

Robert McKenzie, my right name is Robert McKinney, I am twenty six years of age, I was born in Cumberland England, I left England twelve or thirteen years ago, I was about thirteen years old when I left England, I left Liverpool England with my Parents on the Ship *Verandah* for New Orleans, I lived in New Orleans until about March 1849 when I left for California via Panama, and arrived in Steamer *California*, Capt Budd at San Francisco, I then engaged in boating at Clarks point, I followed boating, the whole time, but about two months, during the time I lived at Mr Bruner's, Clarks Point, also Mrs Brewers & Mrs Kettel's I was one week at Bruner's five days at Mrs Brewer's, balance of time at Mrs Kettell's Mrs Brewer lived at the head of Pacific Street, Mrs Kittell lived in Kearney Street near Bush; about six months and a half ago, I went to Trinidad in the Steamer *Eudora*, I boated and done business as a lighter-man at Trinidad Bay, I had a Partner by the name of Jerry Long—I bought a Sloop and went to the mouth of the Klamath, then back to Trinidad and took a load of Provisions on board the Sloop, then went back to the Klamath, and there lost the Sloop it was about three months ago, I then went to the Mines at Shasta Valley, I worked at the Mines about three Weeks, made a living there, the only man that worked with me was Johnson, We then volunteered to Colonel Williams to go to Foal River &

¹ The paragraph enclosed in brackets has been crossed out.

[August 15, 1851]

Pitt River to fight the Indians, and to look for a new Trail, we were seventeen days, for which we got five dollars per day, I was then discharged at Readings House,

I then agreed with a Waggoner to drive his Waggon down to Sacramento I stopped in Sacramento three days at the lower end, I and Harry Klegg put up a Tent at which place I was arrested, I do not know T. B. Kay— Billy Carr knows me— I know Ben Ray the Capt of the Police I have seen Professor Cambell—I never lost five hundred dollars, I have heard of Professor Campbell losing five hundred dollars, I have seen Kelly, I read in the Papers that Kelly lost the money, about seven or eight months ago I heard it, I was in San Francisco at the time. I was on the road from the Mission Dolores to the City at the time that Kelly had the Prize fight, I was in company at the Mission with Kelly and Campbell

At the time Kelly and us went into the House, when Kelly came out he said he had lost the five hundred dollars—

Being confronted with Whittaker the Prisoners declared that they did not know each other,

Hays was brought in they declared that they did not know each other

John Erbet Wilmington called in, says he cannot identify the Prisoner remembers the Schooner Wm B. Allen at Trinidad and helped to unload her, does not know Pete

August 13th Examination resumed

Prisoner being obstinate and refusing to answer was remanded

August 14th 12. O.Clock M. .

Prisoner brought up, Examination continued

I know Sam Whittaker, I became acquainted with him at the Prize fight between Kelly and McGee after the fight was done we came to a Public House outside the Mission Dolores where Kelly was, either Whittaker or Hughes asked me if I was acquainted with the *Bear Hunter* I said I was acquainted with him, they told me there was some money to be got and if I would take the Bear Hunter into another room to see Kelly they would get it, I took him in to see Kelly—the Bear Hunter & myself talked with Kelly a few minutes, said we were sorry he had lost

[August 15, 1851]

the fight, then we came out, the Bear Hunter found the money was gone and made a search for it, Bear Hunter went Home with Kelly—and I went home with others in a Cart, that night I went to the Bear Hunters and asked him if he had got the money

he said no I then went to a House caled the Bird in hand kept by King alias the Barber corner of Montgomery St & Broadway—I stopped there a bit (I had been there previously about a week before this time) King told me to walk into the back room, I went in and saw Whittaker, King and his Partner, McCormick Morris Morgan & Osman, they told me that part of the money was gone, the balance was divided amongst us about \$35 each I then went to a Gambling House by myself when I got to the Gambling House, I saw all of this party there, Jack Smith also I was invited to drink along with all of them, drank with them and staid, till about 11 OClock, Whittaker was dressed up as a Gentleman and asked me to go and sleep with him that night at M^{rs} Ryan's I did so next morning Jack Smith and T. B. Kay came there Whittaker told them, they had got the Bear Hunter's money, T. B. Kay said it was a pity to take the money from the Fighters, this was the first time I had seen Kay. After this I went to King's one day, I saw all these parties there, I went from there with King to the Port Phillip House which was kept by McCormick & Whittaker, I was introduced there, and then went there from time to time, I was introduced into the back sitting place, and saw T. B. Kay there, and all the rest of them Stuart, alias English Jim, T B Kay said they had got a thing, and was fixing on a party who should go; it was C Minturn's—we were all sitting together, T B Kay had been several times at C Minturn's office to examine and inquire, it was arranged that McCormick Whittaker English Jim. Edwards, Adams, Jack Lowe Myself, & T. B. Kay—T. B. Kay went down to the office, when the office was closed he came to the end of the wharf to meet the party, Edwards and some of the party had gone for a Boat. The Boat came all of the party got into the Boat, except T B Kay & myself remained outside as lookouts, The party had got into the Building—just as we had got it all arranged the Clerk or Wharfinger came back for a Book or something, the man went into the Store, T. B. Kay &

[August 15, 1851]

myself run off and the others got off as they could we went back to the Port Phillip House in about an hour the whole party came in, Jack Lowe was going to hit me, he said it was my fault, that they did not succeed

After this affair I went to Sacramento I saw Kelly there, I told Kelly all I knew about his Robbery, I came down in the Steam Boat, the same Night, Kelly followed me down to San Francisco, and went to McCormick, told McCormick that he had stole his money—and while I was at Trinidad I heard that Kelly had got his money by selling McCormick out.—

I went to take a ride to the Mission with a man by the name of John Hughes went to the Mission and saw Kelly and McGee, we got drunk at the Mission and as we were coming home, we met some eight or Ten chinaman, one of them was behind all the others, I was behind in the valley or hollow about 400 yards Hughes was in advance on top of the Hill, the Chinaman's Hat fell off his Horse ran away about 3 or 400 yds back of a House, Hughes galloped after the Horse and got it, Hughes was very Drunk, Hughes asked the Chinaman five dollars for catching the Horse, the Chinaman said he had no five dollars, The Chinaman took his Purse out, Hughes, clicked it out of his hand and galloped off—I met Hughes in Town just as we were putting away the Horses when the Policemen came, they took us Prisoners, to the Station House searched Hughes, found the Money and two specimens, we were taken before the Recorder Tilford, I was discharged, Hughes was put back till next Court, Hughes got seven years, I do not know whether he is in Prison or not,

About a fortnight before the Minturn affair, Edwards brought English Jim in the Port Phillip House, Jim had on a Cloak, and a Hat drawn down over his Eyes, they said he was the man who had broke out of the Prison Brig at Sacramento when I went to Trinidad English Jim came down there, he was Gambling in a House at night with a Policeman named Joseph Wall, whom I knew in New Orleans—while they were playing I recognized him, I asked him what sent him down there, he said you dont know me Sir, I talked to him after which we came outside the House

he asked me what I was doing, I told him I was boating, he said he was only going to stop another day, that he would not

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stay in such a place, he came back to San Francisco I believe in the Schooner *Allen*,

These men said that the Police received bribes—

I have heard T. B. Kay speak of Macondra's about robbing it
Mrs Ryan was the woman whom Whittaker was said to sleep with, the Husband was jealous of him, Husband & wife parted the woman was sent back to Sydney

his
Robert X McKenzie
mark or Kenny

Attest S Payran August 15th 1851

Attest not to be published

[*Report on Samuel Whittaker*]

Executive Chamber

August 15th 1851

In the Matter of Samuel Whittaker a Prisoner in charge of the Committee, who stands implicated by Stuart and others, as being guilty of divers offences, whereby the safety of Lives and property have been endangered

Your Committee respectfully report that they have expended much time and labor in the investigation of this case, and from the Confession of Whittaker made at different times during his imprisonment, as well as from the Testimony of Mrs Hogan, Confession of Mackenzie &c they are of opinion that this is a case which can only be reached by this committee

We recommend that the Prisoner be condemned to suffer the penalty of Death [on Monday the 18th inst at One OClock P. M. that he be Sentenced this night, and receive the benefit of Clergy, from the time of Sentence until time of execution, that the Executive Committee be kept in Session from the time of Sentence until 12 OClock of Sunday night the 17th inst to receive communications from Prisoner through his Priest, or from himself personally²]

[Signed] S Payran
Presdt of Ex Com

Attest W^m C Graham Secty

² The portion enclosed in brackets has been crossed out.

[August 15, 1851]

[Confession of Samuel Whittaker]

Sam Whittaker examined³

My name is Sam^l Whittaker, I was born in Manchester England. I am thirty three years of age next October. I left the port of London in May 1836 on board the *Lady Kennaway*, I do not recollect the Capt's name, she was bound to Sidney and was a convict ship, I was transported for life in that ship for house breaking I was assigned to Mr Smith about fifty miles from Sidney—I left the Colonies about two years since by the ship *Louisa*, Capt Malor—I arrived in San Francisco in August 1849 I got my freedom in 1849 from Gov Fitz Roy I have lost the pardon. It was a conditional pardon. The first business I commenced in San Francisco was as steward in a Public House kept by Crockstein in Broadway. I was in their employ about three months. After leaving that employ I bought a horse and cart & Boat. I employed men to work the team and Boat about two months. I then went to Butchering in Happy Valley and carried it on about one year. I then gave up butchering and went to keeping Public House in Jackson St near Sansome St with a man by the name of Mc Cormick, about two months. I then gave up keeping Public House

Sam Whittaker states that Samuel Whittaker is an assumed name, it was the name under which he was transported, and desires to suppress his real name for family considerations, and as an act of humanity; I began my career of crime in San Francisco at the time I formed my connection with Mc Cormick in keeping the Port Philip House, (before this while Butchering) I used to ride my Horse two or three times a week to the Mission Dolores to purchase cattle. Sanchez offered me a splendid Black Mare at one hundred and fifty dollars, I refused to buy on account of price, James Currey came to me and said the mare was

³ Whittaker's confession is undated, but the main portion was, undoubtedly, made before the Committee reported on his case. Several sheets of the manuscript have become almost illegible through discoloration, and the concluding pages are entirely missing, but as the papers of August 18 printed, in full, the evidence in regard to both Whittaker and McKenzie, reference to the *Herald* of that date has made it possible to complete the imperfect document. It has seemed unnecessary to repeat notes on criminals already mentioned.

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his, I finally bought the Mare Saddle & Bridle for one hundred dollars and Curry came in with me and I paid him taking a receipt for the same, I then rode the mare around, while doing so, a man stopped me and said the Mare belonged to Dutch Charlie and was stolen, and had been advertised, finding it so, I gave up the Mare and looked for Cury I found him altered in dress and about to leave, I took him to Elleard's and there charged him with stealing the Mare, and demanded my money—I got back sixty dollars I then took him to Dutch Charlie Charlie knocked him down and took him to Station House, The sixty dollars was taken by the Police from me, to be handed back after the Trial, I was summoned, attended Court the trial did not come on, Jack Hays put me on a Jury, to try a man charged with stealing a Pistol, we found him guilty and he was sentenced for two years for this trifling Offense, Court adjourned, I was summoned again to attend Court I did so, Cury had been let off

his case was never tried, I demanded my money, the officials asked me how long it had been I told them about sixty days, they laughed at it, and said that it was lost after thirty days, I mention this case to show how justice is administered here, and it seemed to me that a Thief had a better chance than an honest man this took place in Levi Parsons Court who was the Judge

The first crime of which I was guilty was that of robbing a Bear Hunter by the name of Vyse the other side of the Mission in that matter, McCormick MacKenzie Osman, Morris Morgan, two Kings were engaged. I knew the Bear Hunter, and McKenzie also knew him, McKenzie took the Bear Hunter into another room, while he was in that room, Morgan took the money \$900 or thereabouts, when the Bear Hunter came out he found that he had been robbed, we professed to know nothing about it, coming into Town, one of the party stole six hundred of the \$900, the money was divided at King's House corner of Broadway and Montgomery Streets, we got only \$35 each, the money taken from Vyse belonged to Kelly the Fighting Man, shortly after MacKenzie went to Sacramento City, and told Kelly who it was that robbed him on this information Kelly came down from Sacramento, I was then at Monterey Kelly had McCormick arrested and put into Jail, they threatened to Lynch

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McCormick, and got from him some Instrument by which they sold out the Port Phillip House, to reimburse the loss—

After this I went to Monterey with Briggs and Osman, while I was there T. Belcher Kay came down Osman, Kay and myself came up to San José. Kay had the Delerium Tremens at San Jose, Osman came to San Francisco; while there McCarty & McIntyre told Osman to bring up from Monterey Jim Briggs and Morgan, that they had a House to do that would yield \$40,000, they came up, I came up also in the *Goliath* Osman & Briggs received from these officers as to what House, and went to look at it, they asked me to take a look at it I did so, but finding that Jemny from Town (Burns) was engaged I refused to have anything to do with it, and they also refused, I think it was Schloss Brothers, it was nearly opposite the old Custom House, about this time T Belcher Kay was interested in arranging the robbery of the Jewellery establishment and other places,

After this we arranged the robbery of Jansen's Establishment, Jansen lived next door to me, many Persons from Colonies frequented my House, and on leaving the Country generally wanted Sovereigns, Jansen told me that he usually had them and would be glad to sell them, and would be obliged to me to take them, Morgan went with me into Jansen's to buy some Soverigns, this first gave rise to the supposed amount of money Jansen had

Jansen was about to remove, English Jim, Edwards, McCormick planned it thus, the Cart was loaded with the Trunk containing the money, Jansen's Clerk sat on the Trunk with a Candle in his hand, one of the party had slipped the lynch Pin out of the Axle of the Cart expecting that by so doing the wheel would come off—and on falling they would seize the Trunk, however the wheel did not come off and they were disappointed,

some time after this English Jim, Briggs, McCormick Edwards

T. B. Kay myself, Hughes and Morgan planned the robbery of Jansen again, the whole of us were walking past Jansen's when our attention was arrested by a dim light at the bottom of the Store, Morgan went and would have sneaked the money without being discovered, English Jim was standing at the Window, and said if I do not go in there will be no money got,

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he went in, Jim had on a Camblet Cloak which rustled he carried a piece of a stick on the head of which there was a Lump of lead as large as a man's fist, he struck Jansen, knocked him down, Jansen screamed but it was but an instant, T. B. Kay

Hughes, Edwards McCormick were on the same side with Jansen's store, Briggs & myself were on the opposite side, Morgan & English Jim were inside, they brought out the money it was taken to Edward's House, and there divided the money there fell to one share respectively One hundred and Ninety six dollars each, the odd money was spent in the House, they also took Jansen's Watch Edwards Brother got that and threw it into the Bay

While at the Port Phillip House, a man came in and asked me to trust him for something to drink, I told him no, but I would give him a glass of Grog he drank the Liquor, after which he said to me you are a dammed clever fellow, and gave me three hundred dollars to take care of for him—afterwards he called for his money, there was a man present, whose name I do not recollect, but whose name can be found on the records, the man was inebriated when I gave him the money, this fellow robbed the man of the money and cleared out, on Sunday night following he came back to the House I spoke to him about it, he said he had given George \$40, I asked him what share belonged to me, he told me that my share he had left in the man's Pocket to get, I told him to wait until McCormick came, however they, this man and another closed upon me, I knocked them down, I broke the Jaw of one in three places, he prosecuted me for an Assault & Battery I was arrested employed Mr. Wells, the case was tried, I was fined \$100, ordered to pay Doctor Bills, and be imprisoned Ten days on the Prison Brig, I had paid Wells \$100 Counsel fees, I told Wells that it was inconvenient to leave my business and should like to compromise, I told Tilford this also

he said that he would speak to my Counsel, Wells called on me and said it could be compromised for \$230 which amount I paid I state this case also to show the manner in which the Laws are administered, and the corruption, if it had not been for the manner in which I have been treated, and saw others treated by the Laws I should not have been here,

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I know a man by the name of Palmer, this Palmer was a Bird Stuffer he used to live opposite to me on the Hill,

The next matter in which I was interested, and will bring before your view is that of Windred and Berdue they were charged with having robbed Jansen tried for it, and convicted, but they had nothing to do with it, I exerted myself much to same them, I told Parbut that they were innocent, but I did not tell him who were guilty, I had a long argument with Mr Theodore Payne about it, it was intended in case Windred & Berdue were executed to Burn the City, I heard it from different Persons, English Jim was one, indeed all that were engaged in the Jansens Robbery made that declaration, and many others, it was the only time that I ever heard the Colonial People say anything about burning the City, it was to be fired at night in four or five different places—

The next robbery of importance planned by us was that of C. Minturn,

The parties who planned this robbery were T. B. Kay, he put it up, Edwards, McCormick myself, English Jim, Adams, Mackenzie I think this was all, there was another party were to have done that place to wit, Briggs, Morgan, Osman and Mackenzie, but failed from the bungling way they undertook it, we were then to do it, we entered the place through the back window, we intended to cut the floor away and lower the safe into a Boat which Edwards had stole for the purpose, while thus engaged the clerk returned, which alarmed us, we jumped through the window and got away—

I was not interested in the robbery of the Ship, *James Kaskie* We then tried to get up the Robbery of Macondray Store but it fell through T. Belcher Kay put up Macondra's

T. B. Kay also put up a jewellery establishment in a Brick Building in Sacramento Street, Kay was an ignorant man, he can scarcely read or write, his real name is Gibson, I went through the Premises and examined it, and declined doing it, on the ground that to effect it we would have to murder perhaps four or five Persons

McCormick & English Jim went together to shoot a man by the name of O'Flaherty; when McCormick was arrested for

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taking Liquor of Mess Phelan's O'Flaherty went to the Court and stated that M^c Cormick had robbed him in the Colonies, it was for this M^c Cormick intended to kill him, Jim M^c Cormick & my self went, it was a Moonlight night, I said to M^c Cormick that it was too light, and that I would shoot him, at some other time, I done this to save the man, O'Flaherty lived then in Bryant place,

Since the May fire Jack Arentrue met me it appeared that Jack Smith had frequently told that I was a very clever fellow, Arentrue has been after me many times and pointed out several places to me, I never would engage in anything with him, he met me in the street one day and took me down and introduced me to a man by the name of Earl, we met Earl in the Street, Arentrue introduced me to him, we drank together, we then went down to the Custom House, Arrentrue described it to me, stood on the place said there was \$800,000—then we went and looked at the drain, then we went to the other Custom House he took me inside we looked at the Safe or vault that was Building, Earl proposed renting the House next door to the Custom House, and opening an Architect's Office in it, and getting Watkins, and we were to rob it from his Office, this was practicable,⁴ Earl took me to see Watkins Watkins had made his Escape at this time.

Arrentrue and Earl proposed to me to rob the El Dorado, they argued that the interest they had with the authorities would cover our operations I had got sick of all such work and made up my mind to leave off and therefore took no further notice of it, Arrentrue & Earl used to frequently to come to my place at M^{rs} Hogans and drink with me & play cards—I went up to Marysville to see if I could rent a Public House, while there the June Fire in San Francisco took place, and I came down, I saw Arrentrue & his woman—at M^{rs} Hogans she allowed them to stay as they were friends of mine, however when I came they went away as I made some fuss about it, and would not allow her to take anything for their Board & Lodging while they were there, I lived with M^{rs} Hogan four Months during M^r Hogans

⁴ See note 43, p. 244.

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absence, during that time I lived with Mr^s Hogan as man & wife . . . indeed she never intended to live with Hogan any more, I knew her in the Colony I have heard it said that Mr^s Hogan had been transported, I told Mr^s Hogan about Arrentrue & Earl's proposition, she imagined that I was engaged in robbery I paid her \$20 per week for my Board I was not engaged in any business, I also gave her many presents, say about Two Thousand five hundred dollars—Mr^s Hogan knew English Jim and I saw English Jim's likeness in her draw, it was a small one, she also has mine Mr^s Hogan knew all the men I have stated, they used to frequent her House

I derived the monies thus, I won \$700 off English Jim at Monte, I had \$14 or 1500 by me that I had saved while I was a Butcher

George Adams, Mc Cormick, Hughes Mackenzie robbed Duzovo on Sacramento Street below Kearney on the South side It was in September or October early in the evening said to be about \$15000 I was absent at the time

I won of Hetherington's Companion \$600—his name was Dan, I won at thimbles. Edwards & myself have been associated together and they wanted a share of my winnings, a man by the name of Jones, alias Grice, who made his escape from Prison, at Marysville, Jones also wanted a share of it as he was a Companion of Long Charley the reason why Jones wanted a share was that I and long Charley had won it together A man by the name of Gallagher, took up the matter for Jones, and went to my House at Mr^s Hogan's, and went into Mr^s Hogans Bed room on tip toe with a drawn Dagger to look for me, Mr^s Hogan asked him what he wanted, he replied that he wanted Whittaker, that he would make me show up the Money, Mr^s Hogan told him that I was not there, it was talked about his looking after me to kill me, a day or two after Gallagher was found Dead in the street by Edwards House, there was no Mark on him except on the Head, I think that Gallagher knew too much of Edwards business, I think therefore that Edwards poisoned him—at the time Gallagher went into Mr^s Hogans Bed room, I was at the House of Doctor Lambert at the Mission, Mr^s Hogan came out to me with a letter from Judge Bowie to

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take to Monterey, Mrs Hogan was frequently in the habit of coming to see me while at Doctor Lambert, Doctor Lambert is a man from the Colonies, I took the Letter to Monterey it contained Documents of money that Briggs, Morgan & Osman had in the Banks of San Francisco, I delivered up the Documents to Parbut, The Monterey Trial came on that week, English Jim came also to Monterey, I think he came down to shoot me either for my money or Jealousy, I knew all about the robbery at Monterey I loaned Osman Morgan & Briggs \$1000—Quick put up the Monterey Custom House for robbery Ryan was one of the party—and the only one that received any benefit,

I was not interested in any of the Robberies of the Jewellers, Mc Cormick told me of the robberies, I believe if you keep quiet and not publish that the Jewellery will be recovered Osman bought it for \$600 and I do not believe that he has sold it yet.

I gave Mrs Hogan 21 oz in gold for my Board at one time, I had loaned that amount to Osman, and he returned it—the last money I got was \$1200 I gave Mrs Hogan, there was a Miner came into Mrs Hogans House in Sansome Street; T. B. Kay, Edwards & myself were there at the time, the Miner laid down a large Bag of Gold containing two Bags, John Edwards and myself took the Miner out, I had previously taken up the Bag & secreted it—when we took the Miner out we met Mc Cormick, and McCormick & Edwards went after the Miner he had (the Miner) 500 or \$600 more on him, Edwards and Mc Cormick took that from the Miner also, I returned back to Mrs Hogans to meet T. B. Kay. I took one Bag out there was \$700 in it, I gave Edwards Two hundred dollars. I gave T. B. Kay \$25—T. B. Kay owed me One hundred and fifty dollars previously loaned him by me, I then gave him \$25 more which made \$200 as his share of the plunder as Mc Cormick & Edwards kept the 500 or \$600 that they took from the Miner afterwards led him away from Mrs Hogans House I kept the other Bag and made no division of it with my confederates, the other Bag which I did not divide contained \$800 which with my share of that divided say \$300, as I gave but \$200 to each of my Confederates, Kay and Edwards and deducting from Kays share the \$150 he owed me, left \$1249 to me of the Miners money all of which I gave to Mrs

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Hogans, Mrs Hogans knew that I took it from the Man, we were engaged in treating the man with champagne to effect the object, which she knew, I also told her,

Of the money I won of Dan at Gambling I gave her about \$300 Jim Briggs paid me \$100 of the money I loaned him I also gave that to her I exchanged Watches with her mine was the most valuable I also gave her a Diamond ring she bought it out of the funds I gave her

A girl kept by Thibault lived with Mrs Hogans she lived there about a week or a fortnight after I went there she is also aware of my intercourse with Mrs Hogan she Keeps a Public House at Marysville called the Steamboat Hotel

T. B. Kay when Port Warden took Mc Cormick on Board a man of War in the Harbor the Capt or one of the Superior Officers possessed a very valuable Gold Lever Watch with a Snake Chain, while the Officer was asleep Mc Cormick stole the Watch Mc Cormick carried it with him when he went to London, I have no doubt but what it might be recovered Kay knew that McCormick had taken it T. B. Kay said afterwards that he was sorry for it, that the Officer said he would not have taken a \$1000 for it, as it was a gift from a Father

If the Committe write to Dan Forrester of London, or the Chief of Police of Manchester, they will send Mc Cormick and the Watch back again

Old Jack alias Morris Morgan told me that Hughes did it with two flats robbed the Dupont Jewellery [store] Hughes was apprehended for it, and was acquitted I do not know where he is he may have gone out of the Country—I was told that Old Jack took away all that Jewellery, One night it was stated that some of Vigilance Committee met him, Old Jack knocked down one of the men and jumped a fence, in doing so, Jack said he lost part of the Jewellery, amongst it was a small Watch, which was found in a Hat next morning⁵

I believe Morgan has all the Jewellery and I believe he is down the Coast I think Mazatlan if proper means were taken I think it might be recovered—

⁵ See p. 47.

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Hetherington and myself were at Mrs Hogans at the same time, we sometimes slept together Hetherington told me, that his Partner *Antone* was a passionate man, he killed two men, I saw him kill one—it was at the corner of the El Dorado at night and in a crowd Antone stabbed him with a Dagger the Dagger stuck so fast that in drawing it out it pulled the man over, two men were arrested but nothing was made out of it Antone never was suspected,

English Jim and George Smith told me that they shot the man on the Stockton road, it was foggy when they shot him, the man run towards the House and died nearly as soon as he entered the Man had considerable money

I know Berdue I do not think he is a Thief

I never knew of any one setting a place on fire in San Francisco except *Billy Sweet Cheese*, I heard that he set the U. S. on the Plaza on Fire, at the time it was vacant, his name was Billy Shears otherwise called Billy Sweet Cheese—this report is rumor. Mrs Hogan told me for one

I know Peter Freeman, if he is the man I know he is not a thief—

After robbing the Miner alluded to at Mrs Hogan's, I met Andy Mc Carty in Pacific Street, while Edwards & myself were leading off the Miner we met Andy McCarty, I said McCarty I will give you some money in the morning I went to Britton Jones Office Sent to the Police Office for McCarty—to come down, McCarty came down, I then gave McCarty three ounces, I said McCarty, I give you one ounce for T. B. Kay one for Edwards, and one for myself Edwards was with me at the time, Britton Jones saw me give the money to him, I told McCarty that McCormick had got some \$500 from the Miner and he must go and get some out of him too

Whittaker's history of T. B. Kay

On the Continent and in Paris he is known as *Count Peri* in England and the Colonies as *Singing Billy*, also as Billy Gibson—and is now a runaway Convict from Van Dieman's Land, T. B.

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Kay has a Spanish woman for a wife also has a child by the woman, T. B. Kay got off from Launceston with a man by the name of George Madden.

The time that Tooig lopped T. B. Kay with the axe next door to the Rochester House, I was going past there, and it was reported that Tooig had been bailed out for the Assault & Battery of Kay that night, the Rochester House was shut up it was very dark there was a light in the upper part of the House, and Company I opened the Door by pushing it, and there was a Globe Lamp burning in the passage, I took my Revolver out and shot at the Lamp, and the Ball hit the Flame, broke the Lamp and knocked it all into darkness I went up the Street about fifty Yards, I walked back quietly past the House, before I had got to the House the Frenchman had got to the door with the light, I was watching them examining the Door to see where the ball had gone in, I looked to see if *Tooig* was there, I could not see him so I walked away home, they, the inmates of the House never knew who did it, until I told of it at M^{rs} Hogans after the Fire.

Billy Hughes is a runaway Convict, John Edwards is another

John Morris Morgan is another they came from Van Dieman's Land there is no comparison between the Convicts of Sydney & Van Dieman's Land the latter are so bad, that they would not allow them to come into Sydney

Brown in the Police was the man who did the dirty work for McCarty & McIntyre, I was the man who got Windred away I went to the new Jail with Windred's wife and M^{rs} Hogan I sent the Key in Tom Byrnes (the man you sent to Sydney) came to my House and said Windred was out, I got up and went down to the Wharf at Pacific Street, George Adams and Windred were there, I told Adams to go away by himself—I took Windred to a Stable and got Horses, and took Windred out to Lambert, I told Lambert to take care of him and I would pay all expenses—Windred was there about two weeks—I used to get a Carriage and took M^{rs} Windred and M^{rs} Hogan out to Lamberts to see her Husband M^{rs} Windred used to come to see me and M^{rs} Hogans at M^{rs}. Hogans House dressed in men Clothes as a disguise about two weeks from the time I took him Windred

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to Lamberts, I got a ship and I engaged a passage for Windred, and appointed a Night to put him on Board, I told Kitchen to stand by with his Boat that I had a man to put on board the ship, I took one Horse and went out to Lambert's and got Windred away I gave Windred my Cap, bought a new one for myself passed through Sansome Street to Broadway—down Broadway to Battery Street, then I put him down a passage way at Clark's Point I said stand there Windred until I call for you, the Watchword is *Ferguson*, I went past the House kept by West formerly; Mrs Hogan and Mrs Windred were there in waiting going past, I saw Jim Briggs in One House, I then went across to Kitchen to say I was ready—and there I saw George Adams, I was astonished at seeing these men so near each other being all escaped Prisoners & the Police were walking about, Kitchen went down with his Boat, and I told Mrs Windred and Mrs Hogan. I was ready, but would not allow them to go at that moment. I went to where I left Windred, and called *Ferguson*, he came out, I brought him up about half way, and told him I would bring his wife to bid him good bye—(I then went & brought Mrs Windred and Mrs Hogan to the spot, they bid him good bye,) and I put him in the Boat of Kitchen who took him to the Ship, and we went to West's place, I then went to where Adams was, I asked him why he did not go away, having broke out of Prison, why dont you bolt he said he had no money I said I cant help it, I mentioned it to Mrs Hogan & Mrs Windred, I said come let us go home, he wants money and I have got none, Mrs Windred said I have some seven dollars, well said I, give it me, I have three, and I went back and found Adams had gone, so I returned her the seven dollars and we went home the vessels in which Windred was placed remained in Port a Week or a fortnight, and I feared he would be apprehended again Mrs Windred came every night in men Clothes to Mrs Hogan's to know when the ship sailed. Windred sent word to his wife to come on board to go with him and she went on board, and the morning after the Fire of May—the vessel sailed and his wife went with him. About a fortnight after, a Brother of Windred's arrived from Sydney in another ship from Sydney—he is here working about Town,

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Long Jim, alias Stuart, showed me a large specimen of the value of \$140, which he said he took off the body of the Man Moore whom he had murdered—he pledged it with Kitchen for \$40, Kitchen has that Specimen now,

Kitchen is a rough Boatman looking fellow; dirty, very dirty—Kitchen kept a Boarding House in Battery Street, near Clarks Point, he is a stout man dark hair, much hair on the face, he is a convict from Van Dieman's Land he is about 30 years of age—there are few from Van Dieman's Land but what are transported

I know Crockstein & Ward—Ward is a Convict I know it to be a fact English Jim alias Stuart went up to Coombs and had his likeness taken, the night after he, Stuart, said I must have some money—this man Coombs had about \$300 in a Box, T. B. Kay and Morgan went with him, Jim went first, Kay second, Morgan third up the stair way to Coombs Gallery when they reached the second pair of stairs, there was a man sleeping on the Stairs or Landing Jim said there is a man here. Kay says to the man what in the Hell are you doing there, the man answered Oh! I am a Watchman, Kay says so you are lay still old fellow I wont disturb you tonight, tell Mr Coombs we will come in the Morning—they retired from that scrape

Purcell a Police officer used to take money—he took money of Hughes he would take money from any one.⁶

I know Gainesborg, I went a trading with him to Stockton once, I do not know that he would steal himself, but he would deal with Thieves, he has solicited me to obtain goods improperly and he would buy them,—he used to visit Mr's Hogans House,—I did not like peddling, I wanted to take a store and go into business properly—I have heard that he was a transported convict,—he has confessed it to me; it was a common report in the Colonies; it is always known who is and who is not a convict, I know from my knowledge of him that he is a dammed rogue, and would, for sake of gain, induce men under suspicion, or called thieves to do anything for his benefit, taking care to keep himself out of the scrape under supposed good character;

At the Primary Election for Malachi Fallon, I was solicited by

⁶ McKenzie contradicted this (note 5, p. 532). See also p. 364.

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McCarty, Sweeney and McIntyre to aid in that Election. I accordingly did so, I went down accordingly to the Primary Election, and got some twelve votes for Malachi Fallon. John Edwards Britton Jones, W^m Kitchen, Morris Morgan, Long Charley—these men were all convicts and Foreigners, the balance of the votes I got were of the same cast

The list of names I now give, are known as Thieves,

William Clay—is from the Colonies, I believe him to be a convict—I know him to be a Thief—he is a tall dark Complexioned man, about thirty or thirty five years of age,

Tallentine,—is from the Colonies, I believe him to be a convict, he is a slight made man, much Pock marked, light hair & eyes I believe, he had a Lawsuit with Britton W. Jones about robbing—he is a thief by Profession—I believe

William Gregory from Van Diemens Land,—he is a Partner of Tallentine, they generally worked together, as Thieves—he is a low sized and low set man very much Pock marked, rather a down look, he is at the mines at Sonora and as soon as the Vigilance Committee breaks up he will be back again.

Edward Edwards and Charles Edwards, Brothers of John Edwards;⁷ they are from the Colonies; I believe them to be convicts; they are thieves; they are low-sized men; Charles is light complexioned. Edward is dark; Charles has light hair; Edward has darker hair than Charles; these men have a man by the name of Tom, a tall, dark-complexioned man; these Edwards had a boat, and used to steal and trade up and down the river, these men stole potatoes from a ship; also six cases of boots.

Big Bill; he is an American; large, full faced man; lived with an Irish woman who kept a bar at Clark's Point, the house is opposite to where Burns kept, he is a thief.

Wilson, a boatman at Clark's Point, an American, about 5 feet 8 inches in height, stout made, light complexion, red hair, light eyes; he is a thief, he used to come to my own house in Jackson street with Jimmy-from-Town.

The man George, whose jaw I broke, which I have stated in my confession touching the miner who left \$300 in my hands;

⁷ The confession is concluded from the report printed in the *Herald*.

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he is about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, round shouldered, dark complexion, dark hair, a dirty looking fellow, he is a thief.

Charley, a young man about 25 years of age, used to be a waiter at the American Hotel in the square, at the Miners' Restaurant on Long Wharf, and at the Stage Hotel in San Jose, he is about 5 feet 6 inches dark complexion, dark curly hair, an American, thief by adoption, he was much connected with McIntyre and McCarty, he was in jail for some robbery, which took place in Happy Valley, of \$2,000.

Dick Smith was from the colonies, I think a convict. he was about 5 feet 6 or 7 inches, light complexion, rather florid, light hair, light eyes, stout made man, he was connected with the police; he was a putter-up, a kind of go-between the thief and the police, he told me that if any of my friends got into trouble, he would get them out, he would go, or get straw bail.

Thomas Holt, native of Sydney, he is about 5 feet 6 or 7 inches in height, spare made, dark complexion, dark hair and eyes, black teeth, he is a thief, he may be somewhere about the city, his parents are reputed rich, he is about 18 or 19 years of age.

King, commonly called the Barber, kept the public house called the Bird-in-Hand, corner of Montgomery and Pacific streets; he is about five feet five or six inches high, rather stout, light hair, light complexion, light eyes, about 30 years of age; he was a thief; he was engaged in the affair of the bear hunter's, stated by me in my confession; he has a partner always with him, a thin faced, dark man, a little taller than himself; they are inseparable companions; I think Barber keeps a public house; Barber is from the Colonies; I should say he is a convict.

Bluey is from the Colonies; a convict; he is a stout man, about five feet eight inches, dark complexioned, dark hair and eyes; I think he shaves; a country looking fellow. He is a thief, and went about town playing chance games; I have heard of his being engaged in robberies.

A dirty looking little poek-marked Jew (whose name I do not know,) kept a store on the levee at Sacramento; Long Jim wanted to sell him his goods, and because Long Jim would not take the price offered by the Jew, the Jew went and informed

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against him, and Jim threatened to kill him if he got a chance; this Jew was a receiver of stolen goods.

There is a baker by trade at the Mission Dolores; he is a dark, dirty looking fellow. He is a bad character. He proposed to Edwards to rob a man who was going down country to buy cattle.

Long Bill, who used to be a waiter in a restaurant on Dalance street, off Gold street, is a tall man, an American, dark complexioned, dark hair and dark eyes. He was a thief.

John Darke, from Sydney, is five feet five or six inches high, dark complexioned, dark curly hair. He is a thief on his own hook. I don't know who his associates were. I rather think he stole on his own account.

There is one, a cooper by trade, whose name I do not know; he was associated with Long Bill; answers in description to Darke; carried a slung shot. He is a convict. He used to show the slung shot and say that was a convincer. I believe he was a dangerous fellow. I do not know that he is here now.

Joseph Turner and his wife; Turner is a tall, good looking man, dark complexion; he is from the colonies; the man Turner answers this description; his wife will meet a man in the street, get into conversation, leads the man into a bye place, and Turner comes on them suddenly and says, "What are you doing with my wife?" by which means he gets money from the men whom his wife thus decoys; I believe him to be a thief; I don't know where he lives in town.

Thomas Williams, from the colonies. This is the man who decoyed a man into the up stairs of Crockstoin's house, (without Crockstoin's knowledge) and there robbed him of \$2000; he is a dark complexioned man, 5 feet 5 inches, dark eyes and hair; I saw him at Marysville last; he travels about stealing and doing anything.

P. J. Barnes, a tinman from the colonies, a convict; he lives on Montgomery street, between Broadway and Pacific streets; he is a stout man, rather light complexioned and rather surly looking; he will buy stolen goods or steal them; he was apprehended for stealing a trunk from a black fellow, next door to him; they made it up.

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Palmer, the bird-stuffer, is supposed to be a receiver of stolen goods; his name in connection with mine, was sent to the police office, which letter, by a train of circumstances, got into my hands.

Robert Ogden, from the colonies, I think a convict; he kept a house "Live and Let Live," on Broadway, near O'Neil Place. I believe him to be a thief; he had \$8000 of property in his place; not long before he could not pay me for a bullock; he is at Marysville now.

Davis, who kept the saloon under the theatre, now keeps Britton & Jones' house, in Pacific street. This man is a thief; he is from the colonies; I think he was a convict; he robbed a friend of mine, (George —,) of \$25,000.

Whittaker, on being shown a pair of calippers, he stated that he saw a pair on David Earl, who showed them to him as being useful. Earl was confronted with him, and denied ever having seen such an instrument before. Whittaker states that Earl showed them to him at night in the street.

Earl told me what a clever thing he once done with the calippers; he said that he once opened a door, went into a man's room, took the money from under the man's head, went out, re-locked the door, and it was never discovered.

McCarty and McIntyre, at the time of the fire came to me and said there was a safe lying in the street, and wanted me to get a billy and break it open and take out the contents; I found it impracticable and went away. They came after me, and said the California Savings' Bank offered \$500 to save their safe; they wanted me to get a scow and carry it off, but the fire had got all around and I could not do it.

Mrs. Hogan, to do her justice, I must say that she done all in her power to break up my associations, and to lead a different life.

AUGUST 14, 6 o'clock P. M.

I know Mrs. Quelfelt; I called to see her in company with Mrs. Hogan; I knew her some few months.

I slept at Mrs. Quelfelt's one night; I went up to Sonora,

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and found that I could get work for a horse and cart at an ounce a day; I came back and slept at Mrs Quelfelt's one night; when I arrived in town, I went to Mrs. Hogan's and found it would not be agreeable for me to sleep there, as Hogan had returned; I therefore slept at Mrs. Quelfelt's that night, and I gave Mrs. Hogan an ounce to pay to Mrs. Quelfelt; Mrs. Hogan did not take me; she came to see me there the next day. I bought a horse and cart of Cornell's and went in the steamer next day to Stockton; she might have said it was a safe place to conceal myself.

There was some person came into the room while I was at Mrs. Quelfelt's; I did not purposely conceal myself; I was in the habit of using my handkerchief frequently.

I do not know Mr. Quelfelt; I was educated as a mechanic, farrier; I have also acted as groom and trainer of horses; never was taught stenography.

Whittaker [Cross Examination]

Q Do you know Mrs Quiefeldt? If so how long have you known her? only a short time

Q Did you sleep at Mrs Quilfeldt's house on Broadway next the new Jail? If so when & how often? One night only

Q How came you to go there? Did Mrs Hogan take you? I went myself Mrs Hogan called to see me

Q Did Mrs Hogan or anyone else ever tell you that it was a good place to conceal yourself? No

Q When you went there to sleep did Mrs Q know that the officers were after you and that you came there to conceal yourself? No

Q Did either Mrs H or yourself pay Mrs Q for your sleeping there? If so how much? \$16

Q When one of the Boarders came into the rooms where you were did Mrs Q tell you to hide your face & did you hide it with your hands or handkerchief

Q Did Mrs H or Mrs Q ever tell you that they could "smash" or dispose of jewelry for you or others Never

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Q Did you ever know or hear that either Mrs Q or Mrs H did sell any stolen jewelry for anyone Never

Q Did you ever know that any stolen goods or jewelry were deposited or concealed at Mrs Q's Never did

Q Do you know Mr Q? Did you ever know or hear that he purchased stolen jewelry? No

Q Do you know Mrs Thibault who now lives at Marysville—the one that lived with Mrs H on Sansome St? Yes

Q What do you know about her? Did she ever conceal you or help you escape? Is she looked on by the thieves as a woman they can rely on? Never Cannot rely on her

Q Where did you go to from Mrs Quilfeldts? To Stockton

Q Did Mrs Q know where you were going to? She did not—

Q Did you tell her you were going to the Lagoon to purchase horses? I told her I was going to see a Horse

Q What do you know about the Spanish Dance House next door to Mrs Q's? Did you ever sleep there? Did not know there was one, never slept there

Q Do you know anything about a cart load of Boots & Shoes &c that was taken to Mrs Q's after the May fire— I do not—

Q Did you know Maj Jarvis when he lived with Mrs Hogan? I do—he was murdered at the Mission

Q Were you in the City at the time of his murder I was—

Q Do you know or have you ever heard anything about who killed him or what he was killed for? I do not

Q Were you out at or towards the Mission the day Jarvis was killed? I was there the day preceding the night of his murder, parted with him at the Mansion House, next day saw an account of the murder in the Papers^s

Q Did you when in Mrs Q's house, hear her ask Mrs H for

^s Captain E. M. Jarvis was killed, the latter part of March, 1851, by an intoxicated man named Slater, with whom he had quarreled. *Alta California*, April 1, 2, 13, 1851.

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money & did you give Mrs H money to give to Mrs Q— Yes \$16—

Q Do you know Anderson—the fruit man cor Sacramento & Kearney—What do you know of him Do not know him—

Whittaker^a—does he know Metcalf who resides on the Mission Road—Capt Clark says that he can prove Metcalf to be a convict.

Dupont street robbery—who committed it and where is the property How many murders have been committed in S. F. that you know of or have heard of—and who committed them. Was Hetherington one of them.

Who sat fire to S. F. and how much plunder was obtained—where was it put and how divided.—What do you know of Angel Island, &c &c

Sacramento st Robbery.—Who committed this robbery where is the property.—

Names of thieves—do you know Freeman, Hawkins, Oliver, Henry, Wall, Hecker, Ben Fuller, a butcher, Gibson, Rus-suter[?] Mexican Bill, Frank, Thompson, Henry Johnson, William Sefton, Charles — Saml Korn, Tom McGlackin, Charles Mc Gruder, Wm Jones (alias) Peacock, Phill Miller, a French boy named "Joe"—Bill Smith, George Thompson, Charles Wall of Philadelphia, Big George of S. F.—Jack Smith. —A. L. Melvin, an engineer employed at Pile driving.—Broad-rick.—

The Grocery Store of E. L. Morgan Corner of Pacific & Dupont St. was attempted to be robbed by getting under the Store and boring through the floor so as to open the front door. This was some time last season. The store was opposite the Polka House—*Enquire of Whittaker.*—

On the night of the last election the Room Door of D. Kin-niff was opened by the use of plyers and robbed, the door was then locked on the outside and the house plundered several

^a This question, and those which follow, are written on separate pages, and have neither date nor endorsement, but seem to refer to Whittaker's cross examination.

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Miniatures wer stolen the House was on Pacific St next door to Dupont and over the Drug Store of Doctor O'Brien

[*Examination of Mrs Hogan*][From the *S. F. Herald*, August 18]

Mrs Mary Ann Hogan¹⁰ I have heard it stated at my table that the man named Mason was English Jim, or Jim Stuart, the man who committed the murder; Whittaker never told me in private though he might have done so in public. Briggs used to board vessels for Mr. Hogan and purchase articles for him; has not seen Briggs for two months; does not know where he is now; he has very dark hair; is not quite so tall as Mr. E. S. Woodworth, but is much stouter; think he has dark eyes; have joked at the counter in regard to his age; he said he was eight-and-twenty, but I should think he was eight-and-thirty or forty years of age; should think he was a Lancashire man; he used to live with Huttman and Miller; was there nearly two years. Did not see Whittaker yesterday; have not seen him since Monday week; he did not say he was going to Sonora; I told him that Mr. Hogan did not wish him to stay and he therefore left; don't know that he has not gone to the States.

Mary Ann Hogan, re-examined—I am a native of England; I left England when I was about two or three years of age, and went to the Colonies; I married in the Colonies; kept public house at Sydney; I have no recollection of every having seen Whittaker in the Colonies; I left Sydney about two years since; during my residence in the Colonies I never was charged with the commission of crime. On our arrival in San Francisco my husband commenced a general business; we changed this business into that of keeping a public house; the first house kept by us was in Sansome street; while living here my husband went to Oregon on business; I became acquainted with Whittaker at my own house in Sansome street, at the time my husband went to Oregon; I became acquainted with Whittaker through Jim Briggs; I also

¹⁰ Mrs. Hogan's statement is missing from the files, but it was published on August 18, in connection with the confessions of Whittaker and McKenzie.

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knew T. B. Kay, Edwards, Osman, English Jim alias Stuart, Hughes and Arrentrue; these men were in the habit of frequenting my house in Sansome street; after the fire I moved to Green and Dupont streets; Whittaker went with me there; I received nothing from Whittaker except \$20 per week for his board; I never received any presents of any kind from Whittaker, nor from any of the party named as frequenting my house. I knew Gainesborg, the Jew; I knew nothing against him; Whittaker and he traded together; I exchanged watches with Whittaker; I carried a letter from Judge Bowie to Whittaker, at Lambert's; Mr. Hogan lost all his money by buying lands here, and that was the reason why I kept house; Hetherington boarded with me ever since we went to Sansome street; he was a gambler; I recollect a man coming to my house with a dagger drawn, and he went into the room adjoining the bar-room; said he was looking for Whittaker to kill him. I told him Whittaker was not there. Whittaker was at Dr. Lambert's at the time; I went out there with the letter sent to him by Bowie; I did hear of a man being found dead near Edward's house; I never saw the man. Do not that it was the man who came to look for Whittaker with a dagger. I remember Whittaker giving me twenty-one ounces to take care of; I recollect the circumstance of a miner being at my house, and that money was taken from him, as I was informed; Whittaker gave me some money at the time, not so much as he (Whittaker) has stated; I do not think it was \$500; I cannot say how much it was; I think Whittaker gave me \$300 of the money won from Dan; this was about the time Whittaker went to Dr. Lambert's; the money that Whittaker states he gave me of the money repaid him by Jim Briggs, was in the twenty-one ounces he gave me, and not a separate amount; I never bought a shawl or diamond ring out of the moneys given me by Whittaker; I bought the shawl and diamond ring of a Jew, named Gaineborg. Thebault's girl lived at my house about two months.

Prisoner Whittaker brought in and confronted with Mrs. Hogan.

I repaid the moneys back to Whittaker; I held them in trust for him, \$350 at one time, \$300 at another time. Whittaker

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said "I gave the money to her to use as she might think proper; when I wanted money, I asked her"—this arose from the manner in which we were living at the time as man and wife.

Examination of Mrs. Hogan continued—Mrs. Hogan knowing of the associations of Whittaker, and that he was hunted as a dog, advised him to go to work and break off his associations; sent him to the mines twice; know nothing of his stealing, except the case of the miner; I knew his association and confederation with the men I have named; two of the police, Andy McCarty and McIntrye, came to my house and inquired for Whittaker; said they understood Whittaker had won \$2000; I answered, not so much, that Whittaker had only won about \$300; they said that if Whittaker did not come to the office and give them some money, they would get out a warrant for Whittaker; I have heard all the confession of Whittaker read to me carefully, and I have heard Whittaker make the statements; all that he has said is, so far as my knowledge extends, true; I have heard some of the men state the same; I have reason to believe the statements, so far as they go, to be true.

[*Statement of J. W. Whiting*]

[From the *S. F. Herald*, August 18]

James W. Whiting, states—that Whitaker said if Windred and Berdue should be hung for the Jansen robbery, the town would be burned down; this he stated to Mrs. Windred; he said he knew who committed the attempt to murder and rob Jansen; would not tell; he recommended Mrs. Windred to employ Parbut, a lawyer; Whittaker at that time, the time of Windred and Berdue's affair, was living with Mrs. Hogan, the times I went to Mrs. Hogan's house with Mrs. Windred to see about witnesses, which Whittaker said he could obtain to show the innocence of Windred and Berdue, things appeared to be right. I know Berdue, but nothing as to his character.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of General Meeting August 16. 1851

Mr Selim Woodworth in the Chair

Minutes of previous Meeting read & approved

Mr Bohrer a committee appointed to ascertain the cause of Mr J L Bleakleys expulsion from this committee—reports that he has inquired of some of Ex Com and cannot learn any reason for the same

Report of Ex Com Case of David Earle

All reports of Ex Com adopted—

On motion

Resolved That a general meeting be called on Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock through the press¹

On motion Mr Woodworth

That the Confession of the Prisoners be printed in all the papers

That the President of Ex Com have charge of printing confession & evidence

On motion of Col Huie

That Mr Smiley be added to Ex Com

Report of Ex Com in reference to resignation of nine members of Ex be laid on table²

On motion Dr [. . .]

That the thanks of this Com be tendered to the Ex Com

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

Resignation of Philip A Roach. Aug 16. 1851

Gentlemen

My engagements compel me to be absent from San Francisco

¹ The following notice appeared in the San Francisco papers, August 18 and 19:

"Vigilance Committee—A punctual attendance of all the members of the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco is requested on Tuesday Evening, August 19th, at 7½ o'clock, as business of the utmost importance will come before them. By order No. 67, Secretary."

² See pp. 498-499.

[August 16, 1851]

and for this reason I respectfully tender my resignation as a member of your Association: which be pleased to accept.

Very respectfully

Your obt servant

[Signed] Philip A Roach

San Fe^o 16 Aug 1851

[Annotated:] Leave of absence granted and remittance of Fines & Dues for the time,

In the Matter of Philip A. Roach Resignation

Your Committee report that they have granted said P. A. Roach leave of absence, and remittance of Dues & fines for the time of said absence

[Signed] S Payran

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Presdt of Ex Com

Sec pro tem

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

Evidence in Case of W^m Cummings. Aug 17. 1851

Executive Chamber

August 17th 1851

In the matter of William Cummings charged with Embezzlement

Your Committee report that they have examined into all of the facts touching the case, and finding no grounds for the detention of said Cummings discharged him from Custody

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest W^m C Graham Sect^y

The People

vs

W^m Cummings

Charged with

Embezzlement

August 13th 1851

Samuel A Snow Sw[orn] I know a man by the name of William Cummings is a Constable on the day of the June fire,

[August 17, 1851]

I asked him if he had saved any thing from Mary Green House in Jackson Street, he said he had saved two Sopha's but did not know where they were at that time, could not find the Carman that he had given them to, but supposed he would find him in a day or two, I enquired of him from day to day whether he had found them, he said he had not, I then gave it up and supposed that he had saved nothing but had merely said so, Some considerable time after Sherman who drives an Express Waggon called on me, and said that there were two Sopha's sold at Auction by Middleton & Smiley which he supposed were mine I went down to M & S.'s and enquired if they had sold two Sopha's and who had bought them, they said the Sopha's had been sent there and sold on account of William Cummings to Mr Noonan, I called on Mr Noonan, this afternoon and saw the Sopha's, and Noonan said that he had bought them of M & S. and they are the same Sopha's that Cummings said he saved from Mary Green's at the time of the fire the Sopha's are the property of Mary Green,

[Signed] S A Snow

John Middleton, We received an Invoice, of two Sopha's without a name, sometime after William Cummings came in and asked for an account sales of two Sopha's which he said had been sold on his account, we rendered the a/c Sales and paid him the nett proceeds some \$15 this is all I know to the best of my knowledge and belief

[Signed] John Middleton

Mr Smiley States in addition to Mr Middleton that when the Carman brought the Sopha's I asked him who sent them he said Mr Cummings had sent them the statement made by Mr Middleton agrees with my knowledge

[Signed] Thomas J S Smiley

Asa Smith, *sw[orn]* I had my Team in the Street Jackson Street above Kearney St, at the time of the Fire in June, I saw William Cummings there, some persons asked me to take on the Sopha's I said throw them on, no one told me to take them any where Some young man followed me down into

[August 17, 1851]

Montgomery Street, I asked him where I should carry them, he said carry them to where they will be safe, I left the Sopha in the Street Corner of Summer Street and Montgomery Street till night, then I reloaded them and took them to my own House on Bush Street, they were at my House nearly a month, I saw Mr Cummings about a week after, I asked him if he knew to whom the Sopha's belonged he said he did, he asked where they were and I told him, he said he would call and see me, I advertised the Sopha in the *Herald*, three or four times, I paid four dollars for the Advg I saw Cummings three or four times he said he would call and see me, he did not seemed inclined to pay me or move the Sopha, finally I told him they were going to move the House and they must be moved he did not pay me for moving or advertising, I moved the Sopha at his instance, he told me to take them to an Auction, I took them to Middleton & Smiley, I delivered the Sopha's and told M & S, that Mr Cummings sent them to be sold on his account this is all that I know, I told Mr Cummings where I took them, I went to the Auction and inquired they told me that they had sold them and paid Cummings for them

[Signed] Asa Smith

Attest S Payran

Augt 13/51

Charles H Sherman *sw[orn]* I know William Cummings, I went to Mary Green's House I asked her if she had saved all her Furniture from the Fire, she said no, I then asked if Cummings was there on that day (the day of the June Fire) she said he was she said Cummings had told her, he had saved two Sopha's from the Fire, I told her all I knew about them this is all I know about it

[Signed] C H Sherman

Evidence in Case of W^m Lovegrove. Aug 17, 1851

Executive Chamber

August 17th 1851

In the Matter of Hiram W. Lovegrove charged with Lareeny
Your Committee report that they held the said Lovegrove in

[August 17, 1851]

custody for two days and examined him fully, as well as two respectable Witnesses, who know nothing against him, insomuch that Mr Burgin offered to become his surety for appearance before us at any time

Your Committee therefore discharged the said Lovegrove, taking the recognizance of Mr Burgin for his appearance

All of which they respectfully submit and ask for confirmation of their acts

[Signed] S Payran
Presdt of Ex Com

Attest W^m C Graham - Secty

In the Matter of Hiram William Lovegrove

I am a native of Troy in the State of New York I am about 27 years of age, I left N York July 1st 1848 on board the barque *Tecumseh*, Captain Richmond by the way of Cape Horn, I left the Barque at Rio, and joined the Ship *Martha* Capt Joy we left Rio, and put back in distress, I applied to the consul and he advised me to get another ship, I shipped on board the *St Mary's* a Merchant Ship, Capt Hill, we sailed for San Francisco and arrived on May 1st 1849 after a passage of Ten Months, I then went to work at my Trade as a Confectioner for Mr Josephs in this City about one Month or six weeks, I then went to work in making Syrups for Mr Beaudry—I worked for him about two months, I then went to Cooking for the Cape Cod House I cooked about one month then I went up to Sacramento there I went to Cooking for the St Francis Hotel, two or three days—then I went to the Galt House I there cooked about three months I then went to the Woodcock for one day, then I went back to the Galt House there I remained about two weeks, then I went to the Rialto staid about one month I then went to R N Berry's, staid about two weeks, I then worked two or three days for a Baker, then I went to the Massisoit House and cooked about a month, I then went into business on my own account, for a short time, I then left Sacramento and came back to San Francisco in the Month of March 1851. I was out one night & was knocked down and robbed of my money about \$300, I then went to work at the Commercial Res^t I worked there about three weeks, I then went to the Globe Hotel on Long Wharf I

[August 17, 1851]

worked there about five weeks altogether, I then went to work for Mr Tarbox a Carpenter, I worked for him about three days—I then worked for Mr Bucklin[?] a Carpenter about two days—then I went across the River to Contra Costa about the month of May just after the fire of May last I went up to the head of the Creek called Don Antonio, I went over with three Persons, and looked around for a vacant Claim, I found one and took possession, I came over to San F. & saw Mr Keefer, I bargained with him for some Lumber, he told me I could have it for \$35 for the Lot, I bought it, I put up a little House about 8 by 10 ft, I then came over to S. F. Coming over I met Mr Keefer going over to Contra Costa, I then returned again to Contra Costa & took some goods over for a Neighbor a Mr Miller Mr Keefer came over sometime after we had some words, about the Lumber we have not come to a final settlement as yet, I went to the Embacadero & got calveshead & feet & Tripe made Jelly and sold it, I had a Boat I picked the Boat up, while I was at the Globe Hotel made her fast Stuck a notice up and nobody called for it, I lost the Boat, the Landlord gave me his Boat in return, I took it over with me and done my business in it, I had two other Boats, one Sunday I was coming over the Bay two men were blown out I brought them over they gave me the Boat and \$10—and one other Boat I have been sick some of the time have gunned part of the time, dug a Well made a little Garden spot worked a day & a half for F. J. Keefer—all the property I have ever had is there still—at the time of the June Fire I worked at Whitney in Commercial Street

F. J. Keefer *sw[orn]* I have known Mr Lovegrove about a year, his statement is pretty nearly correct, I do not think that he designedly stole the Lumber—I never saw anything about his Premises that I thought was stolen, I came to the Committee at the instance of Mr Burgin

—Attest—

[Cross Examination of] Lovegrove I knew Mr Fuller at the Embacadero, I never took any Tallow from him, he gave me the Tallow I cleaned off the Guts

[August 17, 1851]

I never took a boat from a British Ship

I never carried away any Goods from San Francisco excepting my Clothes I had a piece of Carpeting which had been burned, I picked it up in the water

I have heard the statement of Prisoner Lovegrove, Testimony of Mr Keefer, and know nothing against Mr Lovegrove,

I would also go security for his appearing before the Committee at any time they may desire

[Signed] Stephen Burgun

August 15th Lovegrove is discharged to appear whenever required by the Committee

Evidence in Case of Aaron Gaenisborg Aug 17. 1851

Executive Committee

Executive Chamber August 17th 1851

In the Matter of Aaron Gaenisborg, who stands charge with being a Convict, an aider and Abettor of Thieves

Your Committee respectfully state that they have examined the said Gaenisborg as well as Mrs Wilde, Patrick Wilde, and Sam Whittaker, and being fully satisfied that the said Gaenisborg is a dangerous man in our Community ordered and adjudged that the said Aaron depart this State on or before the 20th of this Month August (being the time that he had fixed for his own departure)

We further represent that the said Aaron Gaenisborg on the night of his appearance before your Committee was Contumacious—and has since his discharge gone into the Interior, we are also of opinion that the said Gaenisborg has sent away much ill gotten property by his wife, who left some time since for the Colony

We would respectfully ask of you whether the proceedings of your Executive body, in passing judgment as above stated, should not be sustained

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest W^m C Graham Secty

Aaron Gainesborg, I am a native of Poland, I left Poland in 1833 I went to Hamburg Germany—I left Germany in 1834

[August 17, 1851]

I went to London, I left London in 1835, I went to South Australia, I went from Adelaide to Sydney—I never was a convict, and left South Australia with a good character my family have gone back and I am going on the 20th of this Month (August)

I know this man his name is Gainsborg a man by the name of Morris—who belonged to the 28th Regt in Bathurst Morris told me that he had done duty over Gainsborg in Irons—

Ordered that Aaron Gainsborg leave the City on or before the 20th August 1851 under Penalty of Death should he ever return—

[Annotated:] Referred back to the Ex Com

Aaron Gainsburgh—Born in Poland.—Left Poland in 1833—went to Germany & then to England.—Left England in 1834—Sailed in the ship *Haywood* from London to Adelaide & from thence to Sydney.—Resided in Sydney four or five years.—The *Haywood* was an Emigrant Ship—Went to Bathurst in 1839.—remained there until about two years since when I removed to California.—I have been in trade here since that time.—know many persons here from Sydney.—Does not know any of them to be Convicts.—Knew one John Smith here formerly who was a convict.—Knows Patrick Wild, who is also a Convict.—Purchased some land of Capt McCondray when I first arrived here for which I paid \$2000—Mr Wild is not a man of truth—I Left England as an emigrant passenger & paid £20. for my passage.—Knows Mr Catton in this place—J. C. Catton, a broker.—He lives on Broadway next to Ohio—

I sent my wife away some time since to the Colonies I am going on the 20th

[*Resignation of Nine Members*]

[*and Report on the Case of Patrick Wilde*]

Executive Committee

August 17th 1851

In the matter of Patrick Wilde or Wise

Whereas by a resolution passed by your body clothing your

[August 17, 1851]

Executive with certain powers your Executive from expediency as well as by the power conferred upon them, transported said Patrick Wilde per Ship *Dorset*, with a copy of the sentence passed on him, which said proceedings were informally offered to your body, without a chance of that portion of the Executive who acted on it explaining to your body the reasons for so doing

Therefore the said Patrick Wilde has gone forth without any Documents being in the hands of the officer of the Ship and is liable to be thrown on this community—or perhaps will never be landed at the Port of Sydney—Such also is the case of Goff and as the acts of your Committee did not meet with your concurrence, they respectfully suggest the propriety of your Body appointing a special Committee for the Transportation of Convicts, better and more stringent means than those now in force by this Committee must be adopted or else our Country will be overrun by Robbers Murderers and Incendiaries, from all the Penal Colonies, already have we allowed several to land, or run from the Ships that lately arrived,

Your Committee have endeavored righteously to carry out the views of their Constituents, at a sacrifice of time patience and money, with no other view than the hope that thereby our City and State might be rendered secure, Nor have we at any time knowingly arrogated to ourselves power or authority not delegated to us by you

Whereas there seems to be some existing jealousy, for what cause we cannot imagine, and whereas the great and most painful duties have devolved upon a few of the Executive at all times, whereby some of that body not cognizant of all facts and circumstances, that transpire amongst them, may in themselves feel aggrieved, by reason of not being acquainted with the whole minutiae, for which they are to blame

° We would respectfully suggest the propriety of your body to select from amongst yourselves, good and true men, Gentlemen not less than thirty years of age, who are not creatures of passion, but cool and deliberate men who have families, who are bound by holy ties either here or at their former homes, free from immorality whereby their judgments might be warped, in this assembly of the People, in a word to select such persons as you

[August 17, 1851]

may have confidence in, to fill the positions now occupied by us, we want no unjust jealousies to exist, but peace and harmony, thus far we have gone on as we hoped safely and honorably, and are ready and willing this night to give up the reins into other hands, and be relieved, we would desire an honorable issue to all our labors—if all orders from your Executive had been fully complied with there would not have been left one of the Gang afloat to night—

We trust Gentlemen that you will take this matter into deep consideration, and ere you adjourn pass on it to our relief

[Signed] S Payran

Attest W^m C Graham Secty “ G. W Ryekman“ W^m C Graham

[Report of M] “ James B Huie

“ George M Garwood

“ G E Schenck

In the matter of Mary Ann “ Isaac Bluxome Jr

lesion and that of Sam Whittaker “ J. C. L. Wadsworth

sory to the crimes committed by “ A. J. Ellis

We report that we allowed the “

ject to our order when [Report on Edwards and Osman]

Your Committee respectfully suggest the Executive Committee

ing the said Mary out of the Country August 17th 1851

done with Your Committee report that they have adopted measures (free of cost to this Committee) to have Edwards and Osman arrested at Mazatlan, the parties proceed by Steamer, it is supposed that a large amount of property is now in their possession belonging to our fellow Citizens, who have been robbed and ruined

[Signed] S Payran

Your Committee Respectfully all Presdt of Ex Com

matter of the Attest W^m C Graham Secty

for several weeks for Transportation as to the man

Hays— [Report]

They would suggest the propriety of appointing Executive Chamber

tee to ship them at the first opportunity Aug 17th 1851

* See In the matter of P. J. Barnes a Tinman, who is implicated by
the Com Whittaker with being a Convict

[August 17, 1851]

Your Committee respectfully present said P. J. Barnes for action, he was once brought by Byrnes before the Committee to prove the respectability of Burns—We think he should be ordered to quit

We also present [. . .] Ward the Partner of Crockstein implicated by Whittaker* as a convict

Also [. . .] Jones & Emma Jones his wife both convicts who arrived per *Mary Catherine*, also John Donnelly

Your Committee desire instructions from the General Committee.

[Signed] S Payran

Attest W^m C Graham Secty

Presdt of Ex Com

[*Report on Mrs. Hogan*]

Executive Chamber

August 17th 1851

In the matter of Mary Ann Hogan who by her own confession and that of Sam Whittaker, stands charged as an accessory to the crimes committed by Whittaker and his associates,

We report that we allowed the said Mary to go at large, subject to our order whenever she may be called for

Your Committee respectfully suggest the propriety of sending the said Mary out of the Country at such time as we may be done with her as a witness

[Signed] S Payran

Attest W^m C Graham Secty

Presdt of Ex Com

[*Report*]

Executive Chamber

August 17th 1851

Your Committee Respectfully call your attention to the matter of the three Sydney convicts who have been in custody for several weeks for Transportation, as well as to the man Hays—

They would suggest the propriety of appointing a Committee to ship them at the first opportunity

* See p. 480. These men had been suspected, from the first days of the Committee (p. 28), but Ward was finally discharged (p. 614).

[August 17, 1851]

They would also call your attention to the imposition practised by the owners or Captains of Ships by whom the Committee were charged \$100 a head for those shipped, the highest price charged for Steerage Passengers to the Colonies is \$50—it was all that was asked or paid in the case of Wilde—The Prisoners in charge for transportation have already cost the Committee more than their Passage money would amount to for feeding, and are a great charge on your Committee otherwise

[Signed] S Payran
Presdt of Ex Com

Attest W^m C. Graham Secty

[Order for Ryan to Leave the State]

Executive Committee

Ryan

August 17th 1851

You are hereby commanded to depart the State of California within ten days from the date hereof otherwise you will be brought before the Committee of Vigilance and dealt with agreeably to such measures as they may in their wisdom adopt

Done by order of the Executive
Committee of Vigilance of San
Francisco

[Signed] S Payran

Attest W^m C Graham Secty

Mr Nugent Ed^t of Herald. Aug 17, 1851

Herald Office

Aug 17. 1851—4½ O'C

Mr Nugent will feel obliged if the gentlemen of the Executive Committee will cause a copy of Whittakers Confession to be furnished him if it be designed that it should appear in the *Herald* as well as in the other papers—He is informed that every other paper has been already furnished—
Executive Committee of Com of Vigilance

[Evidence of Thomas Plunkett, Case of John Donnelly]

Thomas Plunkett sworn—I know John Donnelly I have known him 4 or 5 years—he lived near me in Sydney—A robbery

[August 17, 1851]

was committed he was taken tried for the offence & was sentenced for 2 years—My Daughter was obliged to go and testify in the case she having seen him in the act of moving the chest—The Serg't of Police told me that there were 29 inditemants against him in 12 m's. I have always understood this man was a convict—

[Signed] Tho^s Plunkett

[Evidence of George Patterson]

George Patterson— Am an Irishman have lived in San Francisco for the last 2 years I do not know Thomas Quick nor Swan nor Hughes—I was in the House of Mr Yates when a watch from a man (whom I do not know) to Mr Yates—The man wanted to sell the watch to Mr Yates I do not know Mr Parbut a lawyer—I was never at the house of Mr Yates except two or three times—do not know Mrs Quick—dont know Osman, Jack Edwards—Belcher Kay—Teddy Mc Cormick I have seen Whitaker—I kept a Public House in Dupont St between Broadway & Valejo Sts—

his

George X Patterson
mark

Attest I Bluxome Jr

San Francisco August 17. 1851

[Report on passengers of the Ship Robert Bowne¹]

Gentlemen of Executive Committee

Messrs We have not been able to conclude the examination to night consequently have sent those on shore that are convicts thus far discovered. The Bearer N^o 114 [J. G. McKaraker] will

¹ The *Robert Bowne*, Captain Cameron, from Sydney, arrived at San Francisco, August 16, with 169 passengers (*S. F. Herald*, August 18). The report of the committee of inspection covered at least 114 names, but it is so illegible, from discoloration, that it is impossible to decipher it in full. Five passengers, identified as ex-convicts, were taken to headquarters for further examination, and two of them, Alderson and Roach, were finally deported. (See p. 573.) The names listed in brackets, were crossed out.

[August 17, 1851]

hand this, with the men and return with the Boat I shall not
require any more guard until I see you

Respectfully

[Signed] W H Clarke

[Addressed:] To the Members of Executive Committee

Capt Clarke please send the Men as per names below to
Committee Room for further examination—

Wm Alderson sent ashore 114 [J. G. McKaraker]

[Jas Grimshaw]

L. Higgins Sent ashore 114

Pat Karvin

[Edw^d Laby]

Jas Roach sent ashore 114

[Edw^d Smith]

Michael Slatterly (Acquainted with Quick) sent ashore 114

Jas Webb Sent ashore 114

*Names of persons sent from the Ship Robert Bowne on Sunday
evening last. Augt 17. 1851.*

Wm Alderson	} per Boat Typhoone—
L. Higgins	
James Rouch	
Michl Slatterly	
James Webb.	

MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Order for Thomas and Emma Jones to Leave the State]

Thomas Jones &

Emma Jones

You are requested by the Committee of Vigilance to make

[August 18, 1851]

ready and leave the State of California within thirty days days
from date hereof, and that without fail

Done by order of the Executive

August 18th 1851

S Payran

Presdt of Ex C

Attest W^m C Graham

Secty Ex. Com.

[Addressed:]

Mr Thomas Jones

At Pattersons Shipping Office Pacific St

[Further examinations of Whittaker]

Executive Rooms Aug 18th 1/2 past 7 P. M.

Saml Whittaker: farther examination

Irish Jimmy was the man that shot at Britton Jones is a tall good looking man used to resort among the Spanish dance houses—Whittaker knows Alderson one of the men from the ship *Robert Bowne*. Alderson is a butcher carried on business at Maitland he is a man of considerable property. Whittaker says he is a good man, bore a good character in Maitland. thinks he (M) was transported some years since—was a good man to all the poor people where he lived. has a wife and a small farm in Maitland—*Whittaker brought before William Stuart Testifys as follows* this man now before me is the man to whom I referred in my statement before*—I have heard of your being called Billy Sweet Chees[e]—the first time I saw you was at Bryant Hotel—you were playing at Whist for Campagne—I have seen you at your own house the United States House—I was at your house at a sale at auction—and the next time to the best of my recollection was at Mrs Hogans it might have been two or three times that I saw you at Mrs Hogans—I did not speak to you either time—I first heard you called Billy Sweet Cheese when I first saw you at Mrs Hogans—I heard Mrs Hogan say that she heard you had set fire to the U S Hotel The girls used to call you Sweet Cheese—

* See p. 477.

[August 18, 1851]

Aug 18—/51—Evening Session

Whittaker & McKenzie present—McKenzie knows Dick Terrel, from Mobile is now at the North fork of Salmon Mines—Terrel shot a man in Pacific street named William Nowlan, keeper of a house in Jackson street, as I believe—he shot him about a woman that had been stabbed about jealousy, about last Christmas.—Knows John Purcell very well—

Whittaker knows that Hughs gave Purcell money to suppress evidence in the case of the robbery in Pacific street. Knows this from Hughes and believe it to be true. Purcell was a busy meddling fellow and we all knew that money would keep him quiet.—Knows Burdue—he was a convict & was assigned to Windreds uncle.

Whittaker's last Examination August 18th

I know Yates I believe that he would do anything, I should say the woman Yates is a convict, Yates has prostituted his wife, and a man that would do so, would do anything,

Morris Morgan, Osman, these two men talked of going to Mazatlan this long time, it is said that Morgan took the whole of the Jewellry taken in Dupont Street away with him—

These men have also got Mr^s Hogan Jewellery which they stole, it consists of Goldchains, Watches &c about five hundred dollars in value, there was a sett of Diamond Studs said to have cost 60£, it is said Briggs & Gregory effected this Robbery—

Aug 18—/51—Evening Session—

[Letter from Thomas Davis]

San Francisco Aug 18th 1851

To the Gentlemen, Members of the Vigilance of the city of San Francisco

I see Gentlemen by the city papers of this morning that Samuel Whitaker now in custody of your body has implicated me in the confession which he made before you

That charge I *most solemnly* Declare to be totally and entirely false and without any foundation in fact—of that I am sure I can fully and entirely convince your body at any time when you will favour me with a hearing, This hearing I am anxious

[August 18, 1851]

to to have to the end that I may vindicate my character in the eyes of my fellow citizens and all honest [men]

I can be found in a Saloon in Merchant Street next door to the Pasly cooks Shop

I am Gent

Yours Respty

[Signed] Tho^s Davis¹

[Addressed:]

To The Members of the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco

[Letter from A Lover of Justice]

Monterey Aug 18/51

Gentleman

Among the passengers in the English ship *President*² now in this port for your city, are several men who are or have been *convicts* in Van Diemens Land, some have left here, the remainder are on board, to whom I would respectfully invite your attention.

One of them is one of the *Cabin* passengers by the name of *Robinson*.

A Lover of Justice.

[Report from G. M. Garwood]

Judge Blackburn, A member of the Vigilant Committee, reports he has a friend who owns a Brig in this harbor and offers the Same Brig for the use of the Committee—He will if necessary have the vessel hauled in close to the shore at any point the Committee may desire—

[Signed] George M Garwood

August 18th 51

¹ See p. 484.

² The *President*, Captain Thomas, from Launceston, was reported in the *S. F. Herald* as arriving August 21. W. H. Clarke reported favorably on fourteen passengers, and added: "Mr. G. Robinson came with me to the room, saw Mr. G. Melhus. Will come at any time when sent for to his store on Jackson St. near Battery—has a large quantity of cargo on board ship to land here." See also p. 459.

[August 18, 1851]

[Statements of Daniel Kenniff and Auguste Loissare]

Ex. Vig. Com. Room, Aug 18/51

Daniel Kenniff, a member of the Vigilance Committee, No 645.—Was formerly a Police officer. On the night of the 2^d Tuesday of April, 1851, lived on Pacific street.— That night my house was opened by false keys or some other instrument.— From my room was taken a single brass barreled Pistol—between four & five dollars in money—a small bone whistle & a walking stick.—From the room of my Sister in law, from four to five hundred dollars in money—a diamond stud—2 plain gold studs valued at \$100—one or two finger rings—two bracelets, one entirely of gold and the other of hair with a gold clasp—to one of the bracelets is attached a small locket in which is either the likeness or the hair of the grand Mother & the grand child also a gold belt buckle—gold cross, large size—Several breast pins and several deguarreotypes—one of my wife & child—one of my Mother—one of my sister and one of my sister-in law with her sisters child.—I know Earl very well indeed—have done work for him.— Know Jack Arrentrue—had an interview with him this morning, and enquired of him if he had a hand in robbing me of the above named property, or if he knew who had.— Arrentrue denied any personal knowledge of this robbery, but advised me *to have Earls trunks examined* this afternoon and told me that he thought the trunks of Earl could be found in a house in Stockton Street, near North Beach—The house is kept by a Scotchman, on the left hand side of the street—there is a load of bricks dumped before the door.— Arrentrue said Earl had proved himself a great liar, and that if Earls trunks were not found at the house of the Scotchman on Stockton street he would take me to where they could be found—he would go with me to-night, as he did not like to go out in the day time in consequence of his face being so badly bruised at the fight he had on Saturday night on Dupont street—

Mr Kenniff re-examined. Has called at the house of the Scotchman on Stockton st. his name is Williams—Arrentrue has since told me this is the house in which Earls trunks are—he, Arrentrue is willing to go with some members of the Com.

[August 18, 1851]

of Vig. and show where these trunks are & will assist in the examination of the trunks.

August Loissare, born in France--38 years of age, left Havre on the fourth Sept. 1850, in the ship *Louise*, Capt Fatome--arrived in San Francisco on the 6th Feb. last. Three weeks after his arrival he left for the Northern Mines--worked at Tolls Diggins four months, thirty four miles from Marysville. Was robbed in this city, about four weeks since of one hundred & forty dollars in gold dust--was stopping at Desclas house in Sacramento street, above Kearney. Knows the man that man that robbed him--his name is Louis Vernet--Vernet left immediately after the robbery & is now [at] Bidwells Bar--learned this fact within the last two days. Prays the Vigilance Committee to send this information to the Com. of Vig. of Marysville and that they have the said Vernet sent to S. F. for trial.

[Signed] Auguste Loissare

San Francisco, Aug. 18, 1851.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1851

MINUTES

[*Minutes of Executive Committee August 19, 1851*]

San Francisco Aug 19/51

Executive Session

Members present S Payran G E Schenck T J L Smiley
J B Huie J C F Wadsworth Mc Cahill Ellis Curtis
Gorham Garwood Oakes F A Wordsworth Ryckman.

A motion was made that Mr Spence be requested to resign--
which was carried¹

Minutes of Genl. Com Aug 19, 1851

Minutes of General Meeting August 19. 1851

Mr Selim Woodworth in the Chair

Reports from Ex Com in the Case of Jenks delivered into
the Hands of this Com by the Com of Stockton, discharged

¹ See p. 552.

[August 19, 1851]

Report of Ex Com in the Case of Ship *Robert Bowne*

Reports of Ex Com all excepted

On motion of Mr Argenti

That the Com meet at the room at 8 o'clock to morrow morning²—

Mr Ward

That the final arrangements be left to the Ex Com

Van Bocklyn

That the Roll be called at the meeting on to-morrow morning

Van Bocklyn

That all those persons who have not paid their dues be compelled to remain in the room as a guard tonight—

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Case of *Daniel Jenks of Jacksonville*]Executive Chamber August 19th 1851

In the Matter of Jenks a Prisoner placed in our hands by the Stockton Committee

Your Committee report that they have discharged said Jenks from Custody at the instance of said Committee

all of which is here respectfully reported

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

G. W. Ryckman

Sec pro-tem

San Francisco Aug 10/51

Mr Daniel Jenks. A New Englander by birth has committed a robbery in Jacksonville—this man Jenks stole of W^m Read

² This was in anticipation of the execution of Whittaker and McKenzie, who were to be hung on the next morning, from the yard arm of a vessel near the shore. The plans of the Committee were frustrated by the personal intervention of Governor McDougal, who procured a warrant for the arrest of the two men, and superintended its service by Sheriff Hays and his deputy, about four o'clock on Wednesday morning. See pp. 528-541.

[August 19, 1851]

Eleven Hundred Dollars, which he Jenks says has been returned

This Man Jenks confesses the crime

[Signed] Geo H Sanderson

Pres^t Stockton Vig. Committee

[Addressed:]

Executive Com^{tee}

Geo H Buttress, Thos Sayres, & W^m Shaw. Jacksonville

Aug 7. 1851

Jacksonville August 17th 1851

Gentlemen

The task has devolved upon us of collecting and transmitting to you evidence in the case of Daniel Jenks at present in your custody and accused of stealing gold dust to the amount of one thousand dollars from Messrs W^m B. and John Reed of this camp.— We have to the best of our ability discharged that duty.

During the examination of the witnesses they were cross examined by Cha^s S[?] Randall Esq a practising attorney of this place, whom we appointed as counsel for the accused. The evidence of the principal witness was given with great reluctance. You will perceive by referring to it that he positively refused to answer any question that would criminate the prisoner. The evidence however in our opinion fully establishes his guilt; Such is also the opinion of the meeting, which was composed of our most intelligent and respectable citizens; men who deeply deplore the necessity that the inefficiency of our regular constituted courts has compelled them to act in the manner in which they have done. But remembering the time when even in our large camps it was necessary to sleep with the deadly weapons by our side, and knowing that we have in our midst a lot of worthless vagabonds, whom nothing but the fear of speedy punishment restrains from preying upon the honest portion of the community. They consider that it is highly necessary when a criminal is detected that justice should be meted out to him, let him belong to whatever clime he may. Two of us Tho^s Sayres[?] and Geo H Buttress with all respect beg to state that we have been acquainted

[August 19, 1851]

with the culprit, and know him to have been industrious and sober, and, until his recent crime honest.

While we regret the cause that renders it necessary, we cannot conclude this communication, gentlemen, without expressing our satisfaction of the benefits you have conferred upon the community at large by your patriotic exertions in ridding our infant state of the villains that infest it, and trust that the time will speedily arrive when there will no longer be any necessity for your self imposed and irksome task we subscribe ourselves gentlemen

Your obedt Servts

[Signed] Geo^e H Buttress
 " Thos Sayne [Sayre?]
 " William Shaw

To the Committee of Vigilance

San Francisco

[Addressed:]

The Vigilance Committee

San Francisco

The committee appointed by a meeting of the citizens of Jacksonville on Sunday August the 17th 1851 for the purpose of taking the testimony in the case of Daniel Jenks accused of stealing gold dust to the amount of one thousand dollars and upwards—Report the following evidence as taken *verbatim*

W^m B Reed Sworn "Do not know whether Mr Jenks stole my money or not"—"Could not recognise the money again."—"Found the money"—(Declines answering if he obtained the money from Jenks)—"Whoever I got the money from, I made a private bargain not to make it known"—"If the prisoner were in the hands of the proper authorities I would not decline giving the proper answer"—"My money was stolen from me"—"All the money was returned to me, except a few dollars"—"I found the money"—"The man that had it gave it back to me"—"I decline answering if Mr Jenks gave it to me."—"Mr Jenks has been with me"—"never knew him to act dishonestly"—"Knew him at home"—(Question) (*Did you not admit to other persons that you recovered the money of Mr Jenks?*) "(Answer) "Do not know that I did"—"Might have

[August 19, 1851]

mentioned it.—I recommended the party who stole my money to go home”—“Have known Mr Jenks since he was a boy”—“Have never knew a dishonest act in him.” “Has always maintained a good character at home.”—“Do not suspect him of any crime”—“Would trust him as quick as any man” I know of”—“I decline answering who I got the money from.”—“I pledged myself to the man that I got the money from “not to divulge who I obtained it from”—“He said he would write to me if he went home”—“I blame the man who took the money but do not think it would do him any good to punish him”—

John Reed Sworn “At the conclusion of the meeting at which Mr Kewen addressed the citizens, “I went home and found my money gone”—“Does not know who took my money only what W^m Reed told me”—(*Question*) “Who did Mr W^m Reed inform you had taken your money?” (*Objected to by counsel and ruled out*) “I was alone when the money was taken”—“I am not aware that Mr Jenks paid the money over to Mr Reed”—“I have known Mr Jenks since February 1849”—“Did entertain a high opinion of his character. I think his object in stealing the money was to make a display when he got home.” “Do not now entertain a high opinion of his character”—“Mr Jenks left Jacksonville a week ago last thursday”—“lost my money on the 10th of July”—“Was not in partnership with Mr W^m Reed, our money was deposited in the same tent but not in the same place”—“Mr Jenks knew where it was deposited—“I have suspicion that Mr Jenks stole it”—“I would not trust him at all”—“I believe Mr Jenks stole my money”—“My belief rests upon having suspicions previously, and his giving up my stolen property”—“Do not know that he gave it up but was told so”—“Would have had suspicions of Jenks even if he had not given up the money”—“From his conduct and knowledge of the place where it was concealed”—“W^m Reed gave me back my money”—“I have stated in public that I had not any suspicions of Mr Jenks”—“I could not identify any of the dust that was returned to me as being a part of that stolen from me.

Edward La Favour Sworn “Do not know much about it”—“Mr Jenks has tented with me, I have known him from childhood”—“Would not suspect him of stealing”—“Have

[August 19, 1851]

known him to have the opportunity of taking from \$100. to 3 or \$4000.00. at home." "I never knew him to commit a dishonest act"—"Could not swear that he took the money"—"Should think it was as likely that either of the two Mr Reeds or myself would have stolen the money as Jenks—"Have worked with him and taken out from one to two hundred dollars per day"—"Never missed any to my knowledge"—"Would be willing to trust Mr Jenks the same as heretofore"—"The reason of the alteration in the friendship between Mr Jenks and myself was I suppose that we were suspicious of each other"—"Do not know that the Mr Jenks arrested in San Francisco is the Daniel Jenks that resided in Jacksonville"—"Mr Reed told me that he got his money"—Do not know whether he got it or not."

Paul Niles Sworn "Dont know much about it"—"Know Mr Jenks"—"Accompanied Mr Reed in pusuit of Mr Jenks.—"Followed within a few feet"—"There was some private conversation between Mr Reed and Jenks"—"I concluded that my presence was not wanting"—"He was owing me fifty dollars"—"I preferred waiting until Mr Reed got through with him before I settled my business"—"The cause of myself and Mr Reed following him was we thought that he was going to leave"—"My object was to prevent his leaving until he paid me"—"Knew him to have been owing Mr T Reed borrowed money"—"Have known him since he was a boy"—"Have known him to have three or four hundred dollars belonging to the company"—"Never knew him to act dishonest"—"Overtook Mr Jenks at Smarts garden"—"Was withing hearing"—"Could not hear the conversation"—"My bill was paid by Mr W^m Reed on the same day"—"Was told that Mr Reed lost money"—"I did express an opinion that Jenks took it"—"Heard nothing to that effect between Mr Reed and Jenks"—"Was aware that Messrs W^m and John Reed, La Favour, and Jenks tented together—

Samuel B Kingsly Sworn "Do not know much about it"—"Left this place last Friday a week ago"—"arrived in Stockton on the next day about 4 o'clock"—"Soon after my arrival I saw Mr Jenks come in in the mail stage"—"He went to the post office and then on board of the steamer *Jenny Lind*"—"Before he got on the steamer I informed one of the vigilance

[August 19, 1851]

committee of his arrival"—"The reason why I informed the committee was from the reports that he had stole gold"—"He confessed to one of the vigilance committee of Stockton that he stole over a thousand dollars"—"He also confessed to one of the San Francisco vigilance committee that he stole it"—"I am a member of the vigilance committee" "Have the gentlemen word that he confessed it"—"The gentleman is a merchant of Stockton"—"I was instrumental in the arrest of Mr Jenks"—"Have known Mr Jenks for a number of months."—"Never knew nothing against him"—"Never had an intimate acquaintance with him"—"Suppose that his object in stealing the gold was gain"—"From the acquaintance that I had with him I would not suspect him"—"I would have trusted him had I been in partnership with him"—"I am positive that the person arrested by my influence is the same person who resided in Jacksonville by the name of Daniel Jenks"—"The information that I have received establishes the belief in my mind that he has acknowledged to the vigilance committee of San Francisco stealing the gold"

Mr W^m Reed Recalled I lost \$600.00. John Reed lost two pounds of dust

[Signed]	Geo ^e H Buttress	} Committee	
"	Tho ^s Sayne		} Appointed to collect
"	William Shaw			} evidence

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the evidence delivered upon examination of the several witnesses.

[Signed] Geo^e H Buttress

Secy. Committee

Sworn before me this the 17th day of August 1851

Jacksonville

[Signed] B Pike
Justice of the Peace
Jacksonville

At a meeting of the citizens of Jacksonville held on the morning of Sunday the 17th of August it was *Resolved*

That a committee of three be appointed to take evidence of witnesses in the case of Daniel Jenks accused of stealing gold dust from Messrs W^m B & John Reed. and transmit the same

[August 19, 1851]

to the committee of vigilance of San Francisco, requesting them to act upon it in punishing the prisoner at their discretion.

The following persons were chosen said committee viz Thos Sayres. William Shaw. and Geo^e H Buttress.

At an adjourned meeting held in Mr Keye's store on the evening of the seventeenth of August after hearing the report of the committee it was *Resolved*

"That we adjudge Daniel Jenks guilty of the crime of which he stands accused."—There being but one person voting in the negative.

It was also *Resolved*

"That we would *suggest* to the committee of Vigilance of San Francisco that they administer the amount of fifty lashes upon the bare back to the said Daniel Jenks, and that they send him out of the country; leaving it however entirely to their own discretion in the amount of punishment to be awarded." Also

Resolved "That the thanks of this meeting be tendered to Mr Hyer of San Francisco and the vigilance committees of San Francisco and Stockton for the active part that they have taken in bringing the said Dan^l Jenks to justice."

We the committee appointed to collect and transmit the foregoing evidence to the committee of vigilance of San Francisco, hereby declare our confidence in the integrity of the above committee of vigilance, and would suggest that they *use their own discretion in the amount of punishment awarded to the culprit*. It being our opinion that in consideration of the youth and previous good character of the accused; his bodily weakness; and in all probability his first offence; that the amount of punishment suggested by the citizens of this camp is too severe

[Signed] Tho^s Sayne
" William Shaw
" Geo^e H Buttress

Stockton Aug 17/51

To The Vigilance Committee of San Francisco

Gentlemen At a meeting of the Vigilance Committee of this City held on the evening of the 15th Aug. A Motion was made and passed that we recommend you to release the prisoner Jenks

[August 19, 1851]
provided he is not wanted in Jacksonville and that you advise him to Leave the country immediately on sight

Yours &c

[Signed] C. G. Sharps.

Sect. Stockton V. C.

[Addressed:]

Secretary of Sanfrancisco Vigilance Committee

[Endorsed:] Jenks Discharged Augt 19 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Names of Convicts from Ship Robert Bowne with Report of Ex Com. August 18. 1851

In the Matter of Ship *Robert Bowne* of Sydney which arrived on Sunday the 17th

Your Committee report that they detailed a guard and Examiners who reported the following Persons as Convicts

James Webb. 36.—

William Alderson 39

Michael Slattery 35

James Roach 37

Lawrence Higgins 69

whom they sent into our custody, your committee re examined said Prisoners and found Michael Slattery was not a Convict and therefore discharged him the others are in custody for shipment they have also had the Capt before them and ordered that he & Consigners must pay for trans Shipment

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

G. W. Ryckman

Sec pro-tem

List of Men sent from Ship Robert Bowne from Sydney August 18th 1851, said to be convicts

James Webb—36 Yr^s of age Transported for throwing a Marling Spike at a Leiut of one of her Majesty Ship—has a wife on Board

[August 19, 1851]

William Alderson, 39 Years of age Transported for Street Robbery in Manchester—14 Years

[Michael Slattery—35 Says he is not a Convict—*Discharged*³]

James Roach 37—Native of Ireland Transported for Riot, 7 years

Lawrence Higgins 69—32 years in the Colonies—I was transported for being a United Irishman

[*Petition on behalf of William Alderson*]

Ship *Robert Bowne* 19th August 1851

To the Worshipful the members of the Vigilance Committee

We the undersigned Captain, Officers, and passengers of the ship *Robert Bowne* taking into our consideration the good character and general good conduct of William Alderson a passenger by the same ship and now in the hands of the Vigilance Committee do most especially recommend them to your worships consideration, Some of us have known him for a number of years and to our own knowledge he has always led a respectable, honest, sober, quiet life haveing left a good business in Maitland New, South, Wales, being in fact a most industrious man and always considered by the Gentry of New South Wales a good citizen.

So for your Worships Most Merciful consideration We humbly Pray

[Signed]	W Cameron, Master
"	J S Curtis Chief Officer
"	Avery E Parker 2 ^d Officer
"	W. F. Studley cabin passenger
"	J. A. Kirkpatrick Surgeon
"	W G Blyth Cabin passenger
"	George M Kay
"	Michael Kaley

[Signed] Steerage passengers

E Slooke	David P Thayer
Patrick Kinwan	John Kilpatrick
Malachy Cavanagh	John Power

³ The words enclosed in brackets have been crossed out.

[August 19, 1851]

Lewis West	Charles Willen
George Bololin	J Noble
Harry Beal	W Robinson
John Holt	James Hughes
[Annotated:] Warranter for signatures W H Clarke	
Chief Water Police	

Statement of W^m Clay and report of Executive Committee

Executive Committee

August 19th 1851

In the Matter of William Clay implicated by Samuel Whittaker with being a Thief, as well as a Convict from the Colony⁴

Your Committee report that they have said William Clay brought before them and find that the report of said Whittaker is true, and detailed Mr Oakley as a committee to close up the business of said Clay, all of which is being done

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem

William Clay I was born in Nottingham England—sailed from Eng for Sydney in *Marquis of Huntley the 4th*—Capt Alohen—She was a convict ship—I was transported for 7 years—for *tearing canvass* I arrived at Sydney in July 1835 served out 7 years—I was assigned to Peter Mc Intyre, I left Sydney in the ship *Union* Capt Causer, and arrived here S. F. in the month of June 1850, I went to carrying the Hod, I lived in a place of my own in Happy Valley—carried the Hod three or four days—knocked up by sickness—sick five months, my wife took care of me, my wife left me two months ago, and is now [in] Sacramento I was keeping a Groggery on Montgomery Street near Bush Street kept it one month, Mrs Williams came to my house Mrs Murphy—Sam Whittaker came once I bought my Liquor of Mc Donnell, I knew Mc Cormick & Whit-

⁴ See p. 481.

[August 19, 1851]

taker who lived in Jackson Street—my wife and another woman went out to buy Bonnets, they went to the Port Phillip House got drunk and left their Bonnets behind—she sent me for the Bonnet I went after it, (*Whittaker brought in and confronted with Clay—*)

Whittaker states that Clay came to my House occasionally—he came many times during the time I kept the House Clay's wife was not in the habit of visiting my House I do not know that she came more than once, she came to Drink, he associated with Bluey Jake Bradley—they played the Gaitu game, he is a thief by reputation

Ordered that Clay be sent out of the Country—that a committee be appointed to take charge of his assets and close them out

[*Letter from Mr. Payran*]

To Executive Committee of Vigilance

Gent I am summoned to appear before the Superior Court in the case of Metcalf & Argenti, I therefore cannot be with you till Evening I am also much indisposed

Most Obd servt

[Signed] S Payran

Aug 19/51

[Addressed:]

Executive Committee of Committee of Vigilance
Present

[*Instructions to J. W. Cartwright for the Arrest of Turner*]

Mr Cartwright

You are hereby authorized and instructed to proceed with Mr Robart to Benicia & Martinez, and arrest a man known by the names of *Turner, Tanner*, or Thomas Quick, who is suspected of Robbery and have him before this Committee, also to take possession of any Jewellery, Diamonds, Watches, Precious Stone, Gold Specimen or any other property believed to be stolen, also

[August 19, 1851]

all Tools and implements used for effecting robberies, and report to this Committee how you have executed the order

Done by order of the Executive

August 19 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem.

[Addressed:]

Mr Cartwright

Present

Stephen Payran to Philip A Roach Aug. 19, 1851

Executive Chamber Committee of Vigilance

San Francisco 19th Augst 1851

Philip A Roach Es^{qr}

Dear Sir, Your letter of the 16th Inst tendering your resignation as a member of the Committee of Vigilance, has been duly received and laid before the General Committee—The following is the result of their action thereon.

Resolved that the resignation of Mr P. A. Roach be laid upon the table and that leave of absence be hereby granted him with a remission of fines and dues during his absence from San Francisco—

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully Yours

[Signed] Stephen Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman,

Sec pro-tem

[Addressed:]

Philip A Roach Esq

San Francisco

[Statement of Peter Thompson]

Aug 19th 1851

Peter Thompson N^o 312 north west Cor of Front of Pacific
St I have seen W^m Gregory—I know now who he is from the

[August 19, 1851]

description Whittaker gives of him Gregory was asked by a carman this morning why 'aint you off, they are looking for you The carman is called Boston and when he spoke to Gregory he called him by name. Gregory was intoxicated at the time and replied I do not care much Gregory had just come down from the mines had a carpet bag with him, after this I heard the carman took Gregory to Tip Doyles house, corner of Broadway & Battery Sts and gave him one dollar. Gregory I saw on horseback this afternoon, first on a white horse and afterwards on a black horse. he was very drunk when I saw him on horseback. This is all I know about the man—

[Signed] Peter Thompson

John Olligin

Came in the Bark *Heber* from Baltimore dont Remember Capt. name 3 yrs in Country was 10 m in the mines, 7 months in town since I left the mines been working Round of ships for Johnson Eadon

Never saw the man that I was arrested with until to day—he asked me to go to ride with him to the Mission—I borrowed my coat from Duffey keeps a bar at the corner of Cuninghams wharf and battery street—and started for the Mission about 4 O'clock this afternoon⁵

[Attest] Samuel Brannan

[Case of McKenzie and Whittaker Police Orders]

Chief of Police

You are requested to select such Guard as you think sufficient to proceed with the Prisoners to such place of security as you may have adopted, and there hold them for Execution agreeably to order of Executive hereunto attached

Done by order of Executive⁶August 19th 1851

⁵ On the afternoon of August 19, Brannan caused the arrest of John Olligin and W. L. Harding, on suspicion of their being connected with the murder of a man whose body was found on the road to the Mission. Both were finally discharged. See p. 578.

⁶ The order to the chief of police is in Payran's handwriting (see also p. 535) and attached to it is the schedule of action, made out by Isaac Bluxome. The authorities seized the prisoners before the removal was accomplished.

[August 19, 1851]

[Schedule]

1 That the Chief of Police detail a Guard of good and true men, well armed, to be on board of the ship to superintend and carry out the objects of the Committee of Vigilance, as the Committee approach the scene of execution the waving of an Handkerchief shall be the signal

2. Ordered that the tolling of the Bell shall take place at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 o'clock A M of the morning of the 20th of August 1851 and continue until after the execution

3. Ordered—That the Clergyman be allowed to proceed on Board from Market Street wharf at $\frac{1}{4}$ before 8 o'clock A M—to remain with Prisoners until after Execution

4. Ordered—That the Bodies be exposed at the Yard Arms for one hour and not to be allowed to be cut down

5. The water signal shall be the hoisting of a signal and firing a gun on the tolling of the Bell

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1851

MINUTES

*Minutes of the Executive Committee held on Wednesday
August 20th*

Members present J. C. L. Wadsworth in the Chair G. A. Schenck C H Brindley Jas F. Curtis George M Garwood

Communication from Edwin Gates dated Santa Clara August 17th 1851 Moved to lay over for action at the next meeting

On motion Adjourned

[Signed] Geo M. Garwood
Sec^y pro. tem.

*Minutes of Special Meeting [of General Committee]
Aug 19, [20] 1851*

Minutes of Special Meeting 8, A M August 20. 1851

Col Stephenson in the Chair

Mr Petrowitch chairman of Prison Com reported that the Prisoners taken from the Committee are now in the County Goal in cell No 5

[August 20, 1851]

On motion of Mr Hart

Resolved that a Committee of 5 be appointed to investigate the charges preferred against the Guard on duty last night in the matter of the capture of the prisoners Whitaker & Mc Kenzie and the said Committee shall have power to send for persons & papers. The following are the committee Mr Hart Mr C V Gillespie Dr Stout Mr Brannan Capt H S Brown— Col Stephenson

On motion Mr John Egan

Resolved That the Chief of Police be suspended from duty until after the decision of the Committee of 5—

Adjourned to meet at 4 P M

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

[*Resolved* that this Com proceed en masse & to the Prison and take from the Authorities the Prisoners taken from us last night. laid on the table¹]

¹ From a draft of the Minutes.*Minutes of Special Meeting [of General Committee]*

Aug. 19. [20] 1851

Minutes of Special Meeting 4 P M Aug 20/51

Mr Selim Woodworth in the chair

Report of the Special Committee appointed to investigate the matter of the guard on duty on the morning of the 19th [20th] and to whom this Committee are indebted for the rescue of the two prisoners Whitaker & McKenzie— report accepted & placed on file

Letter was received from Mess Flint Peabody & Co enclosing 100\$— Ordered That a letter of thanks be sent to the Gent—

Mr Van Bocklen was elected Chief of Police

On motion Mr Higgins

Resolved that the Chief of Police keep a constant guard of 20 men over the 2 prisoners arrested by the sheriff of the county

Resignation of J W Salmon & H D Evans accepted

On motion Cha^s A Poor

Resolved That the sentence of Death pronounced on the

[August 20, 1851]

two men Whitaker & Mc Kenzie still remains in full force and that all necessary means shall be resorted to, to obtain possession of those men & when taken that they shall meet the punishment due their crimes as the voice of the people demands it

On motion Dr Stout

Resolved, That any member who may be found guilty of stating any matters or transactions that take place within the walls of the Vigilance Com shall be expelled from this body—and the person so offending shall be published in all the City papers

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS.

[Resolution]

We call on you for instructions, is it necessary to carry out any further measures, when we are intimidated by a few poor seniles in office, so much so as to allow our dispensations to be carried out, which they have so long refused to do—

Had we not better, write to our correspondents and say, that the Servants are Superior to their Masters, and allow the rogues to go unhung—and cut loose the shackles of those in our power and permit them to go at large—why detain them here, why expend our time and money on them,—when we (the People) are afraid of the puny & insignificant powers whom we have placed in office

I would move that all should be released and sent forth to destroy all our labors, by fire & murder—or to at once rouse our City to Action, and show who has the Supremacy¹

[Annotated:] laid on table Aug 19 [20] 1851

[On the back of the sheet, as if to begin a letter, appears the following:]

J. C. Hays

Sheriff Sir,

¹ This resolution is in Payran's handwriting. It is to be noted that the secretary, Bluxome, endorsed several of the day's documents "August 19," although the headings of the papers, or their context, indicate their place as subsequent to the removal of Whitaker and McKenzie.

[August 20, 1851]

[Resolution]

Resolved 1st that the Committee of Vigilance call upon the people of San Francisco, to decide by ballot what disposition shall be made of the Prisoners Whittiker & M^c Kenzie Whether they be delivered again into the hands of the Committee and be executed, or remain in the custody of the civil authorities.

2nd That the Executive Committee be directed to prepare an address to the citizens, and make all the preliminary arrangements for the said election.

[404] Rodmond Gibbons]

Annotated:] laid on the table

Aug 19. [20] 1851

Letter from the Santa Clara Vigilance Committee respecting one Morgan Aug 20th 1851

Santa Clara August 19th 1851

To the "Vigilance Committee of San Francisco"

Gents In reading "the confessions of Whittaker," in yesterdays papers our attention was called to the disclosures made of one *Morgan* and by request of the corresponding committee of our Association I take this opportunity of informing your Committee that there is a person of that name who came to this place under rather suspicious circumstances, with quite a large quantity of goods and *jewelry*. He is an Englishman and we suspect that he may in some way be connected with the outlaws & fellows who infest our Country, I am informed that he is on intimate terms with a person by the name of Barrett, who resides in your City in Montgomery St near Kearney. We suggest the name of Barrett, that your Committee may be on the look-out and should things round his place look suspicious and we receive information of the facts, we can take measures for the purpose of examining into the affairs of Morgan.

Morgan is a man about 40 years of age Light complexion, hair dark & slightly grey. Our Committee are of the opinion that he is a *Sidney convict* & associated with Barrett & others. Any information you may have to communicate we should be most happy to receive.

[August 20, 1851]

Pr order of the corresponding committee of the "Santa Clara Vigilance Association."

[Signed] Edwin Gates, Secretary.

[Addressed:]

To the Sec^y of the "Vigilance Committee of San Francisco"
San Francisco

[Resignation of J. W. Salmon and H. D. Evans]

We the undersigned who have had the honor hitherto to be members of the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco, beg to request that they may be allowed to resign from being any longer members of that Association.—

San Francisco 20 August 1851

[Signed] J. W. Salmon

" H. D. Evans

[Annotated:] Aug 19. [20] 1851 Accepted

[Letter from Messrs Flint, Peabody & Co.]

To the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco

Gentlemen Please find herewith check for One Hundred Dollars, which we ask you to accept, as a small token of our appreciation of your efforts to punish & suppress crime in our midst.

We have sympathized with you since your first organization. We appreciate your labors in behalf of this city, and knowing that you have been at much expense we deem it but our duty to bear some share of the same.

We trust that in the present crisis your action will be characterized by your usual prudence and firmness, and that you will not entertain a thought of discontinuing your efforts in so noble a cause.

We remain with respect

your friends

Flint, Peabody & Co.

San Francisco Aug 20, 1851

[August 20, 1851]

H Hoag. Aug 20. 1851

To the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco

Gentlemen A Mr Walker Passenger of ship *Robert Bowen* from Sydney informed me this morning that he knows there was passengers on board said ship whose characters were desperate and who were unfit for society that he would have informed the Committee appointed to investigate the matter of the fact and gave the names had the examination been private and Confidential as it was he would endanger his life by disclosing facts known to himself he has heard that there were twelve convicts on board and bad men who were not convicts and would now be willing to give you the facts if the matter should be strictly Confidential

Very Respectfully

Yours & C

Aug 20. 51

[Signed] H. Hoag

[Report on the Escape of Whittaker and McKenzie]

The Committee nominated by the Vig. Com, to investigate the cause of the escape or abstraction of the prisoners Mc Kenzie & Whittaker from the prison room of the Vig. Com^e, on the night of August 20th and ascertain if their removal can be attributed to any treachery or information conveyed to the authorities by any member or by members of the Vig. Com. [and also whether Mr Van Bokkelen the Chief of Police have faithfully and truly performed his duty²] report respectfully as follows—

The Committee having invited his Excellency the Governor of the State, his Honor the Mayor Sheriff Hays, & Deputy Sheriff Caperton to meet them in the Executive Chambers, those Gentlemen cordially assented, and being informed that the object of the Com^e, was to ascertain if their action in seizing and removing the prisoners was aided and abetted by any members of the V. C. they have provided the Com with the statements as follows severally,—

Com. of Investⁿ. Mor[nin]g Mayor, Sheriff, Govn^r—at 12 O C.

His Excl^l. John McDougall appeared before the Com^e by a

² The words enclosed in brackets have been crossed out.

[August 20, 1851]

request. And states that at the Hotel at Benicia yest^y 19th inst he heard it stated that the V. C. were to meet last night to sentence the pris^{rs} McKenzie and Whit^r. That he determined to come down & prevent an execution if possible arrived here last night between 11 & 12, While at the Union where he immediately went, was inform^d by two gentlemen, who represented that they were, or had been Members of V. C. that the Com had determined to execute the prisoners between 8 an[d] 4 O. C. today. Immediately thereupon went to Mayor Brenham, called upon him to assist him in rescuing the pris^s, subsequently call^d on the Sheriff—with the Mayor & Sheriff determined to get a writ of H. C. & went for the purpose to Judge Bennett at his residence but could not find him. Subsequently procured the attendance of Judge Norton, before whom the writ was obtained and given to the sheriff.³ accomp by the Sherif. his deputy Maj Caperton and the Mayor came to the rooms of the V. C. Major Caperton entered the door first, the Sheriff followed. He (Gov.) paused at the door at the head of the stairs the Mayor remained outside in the street. Immediately the Sheriff & Caperton entered, the door was closed—The Sheriff & M. Caperton soon after came out with the pris^{rs}—No resistance having been made to their entrance or departure

The Gov^r having been asked for the names of the two members, who gave the inform at the Union, he declined, not thinking it expedient so to do.

His Hon The Mayor ap^d before the C^e at their request

He confirmed the statements of the Gov^r in relation to procuring the H. C. & its service at the rooms of the V. C. & further states that until the conference at the Sheriff's of[fice] when they determined on taking out the writ of H. C. it was intended to have appeared at 8 O. C. with all his Marshalls & police to prevent the execution, that he is perfectly certain that no member of the V. C. or any other persons other than those who came, had cognizance of their intentions No collusion directly or indirectly existed between them and any members of the V. C.—

³ The affidavit of Governor McDougal, and the warrant issued to the sheriff, are printed in the Introduction.

[August 20, 1851]

Upon being asked whether Mr Van B had been in his office last night, He said no, that he had not spoken to Mr V. B. in several months. and had had no communication with any member of the V. C. upon the subject

Col Hays, being invited to appear before the C. expressed his perfect willingness so to do. Col H was in bed when the Gov^r & his H the Mayor called upon him and requested him to go & serve the writ of H.C. upon the prisoners. He at first thought it was not his duty so to do, and rather roughly declined— He asked if they *knew* that the pris^{rs} [were] to be executed, and the Gov^r said he had positive informⁿ. and had it from members of the V. C. He then consented to go and serve the writ. He and Major Caperton came to the rooms, entered, he remained at the door, & sent Maj Caperton to the room to take the prisoners out. While at the door, a person took him by the sleeve There was no resistance to their entrance and but slight resistance to their departing with the prisoners. Just previous to leaving, Mr V. B. came to him & took hold of him requesting him in a friendly way to come from the door as he had something to say to him—which he refused to do.

Pat^k B. [P.] Hull, Ex^d Was here last night.—Knows something of the escape of the prisoners Came here last night, report^d for V. duty, such being wanted and enquired for after adjourn^t,—was told to arm—went & returned. Reported again— & was told would receive orders.—I received no orders, & was at liberty about the room. Between 2 & 3 O.C. myself & others were called into the Ex^e room. Garwood, Evans to receive orders in relation to the prisoners.—having gone to the refreshment room heard a scuffling & call for police,—at a loss to comprehend—soon saw the first of prisoners going out. Saw Jack Hays, & many others; could not get into the crowd.—When he saw the pris^r ran to the door outside 2^d story.— 1st object was see if there was a crowd. Heard in the room “We are too strong for you” we have a posse outside tried to get out, by a rope. Mr. Thompson, Inspector came & go down by a rope. Sent him to close the outside door at the foot of stairs [and] ring the alarm

[August 20, 1851]

at the time that Thompson was getting down Van Bok came & said "that is right, hurry." Afterwards saw the two men go out the door in custody; drew my pistol & cocked, but abstained from firing—

Mr. Steele was in charge of door at head of stairs Mr. Parker in the room of of pris^s. A drayman Mr. Mallett outside of the pris^s room heard a number of persons say Close the door, but saw no physical force used to prevent the pris^s escape. [Ten to 20 members were in the rooms last night⁴] from 6 to 8 were stirring about the room, many more asleep—when the occurrence 1st took place & many sprang up when the alarm was given.

Mr. Van Bok—You received orders canvassed [?] the merits of the guard.

5 to 8 minutes occupied while in refresh^t room—

Witness saw Mr. Van B. actively engaged in making list of guards, &c & other duty required by the occasion.

[Signed] P. P. Hull

Mr. McDuffee. presents lists marked A as detail of last night it was not quite 3 at the time he went to bed.—[In the margin: the guard from 12 to 3 were on duty].—The relief from 3 to 6 were in the room ready for duty.—when sent for Mr Mines, gave the keys of the prisoners irons & chains to Van Bok.—which was about 12 O.C. & has not since seen the keys.—The prisoners were ironed with h[and] cuffs but not chained when gave the keys to V. B.— It has been the custom for Witman [Whitman] & Van B. to chain & lock the pris^s, at night.— Was waken^d by a noise on the stairs heard a cry of police,—heard Sheriff was in room came out, saw members going down stairs, did not see sheriff.—

[Signed] A. Jackson McDuffee.

Guards in the room on the night of the 19th /20

R Hochkofler 266

F. B. Loomis

John B. Evans 330

J. H. Watson

Thomas Gowen [Goin] 618

R. B. Hampton

James S. Wethered

W. C. Annan

⁴ The words enclosed in brackets have been crossed out.

[August 20, 1851]

John S. Ellis 654	S. T. Thompson
Chanler Weles [Welch] 434	H. J. Payne [Paine]
Jos. T. Hamm 75	Majr Graham
D. Haine 399	P. P. Hull
D. J. Thomas Jr 81	Oakes
M. Mc Intyre 796	Van bocklin
Fred. Iken 66	Oakes
Ths B. Parker 363	Vi. Turner
J. H. Mallett	Capt. Gorham
J. A Steele Door	William Hoag
S. L. Dewey	Cornell Higgins
Steele J A	J. G. Gould
D. G. Oakley Front Sentinel	Mr Paran [Payran]

Mr. Cornell. I was called at 20 min to 4, by Mr V. B. and said are you armed—get up & dress—

At 10 to 4 heard Col H. say dont resist me, I am the Sheriff of the Co.

25 or 30 men of the C were in the room, came to the door & saw a crowd around it, saw the prisoners pass out, Immediately ran out and gave the alarm by going with Mr Bluxome to ring the bell. Did not know he was detailed for duty until called by Van B.—who subsequently informed him he did not want it generally known that the prisoners were to be removed. The prisoners he observed were not chained when they went out, but had handcuffs on

He had a revolver but [did] not feel justified in using it, without an order from the Chief of Police. Had an order been given would have obeyed.—

[Signed] A J Cornell

John B. Evans;⁵ testified that he had been anxious to be on duty and had registered his name for that object.— About 3 O. C. was outside by order, to induce persons about the door, to leave, that the prisoners might be brought out to be taken on board a vessel. While there was addressed by a man named Yorker,—or Nelligan, and asked if V. I. Turner was up stairs.—

⁵ An endorsement on this page reads: McKenzie says he never knew of any monies being given to Purcell.

[August 20, 1851]

Said, I do not know the man, was asked to enquire, and Mr V B told me he, V Turner was not in the room—Yorker on hearing this, said—he knew he was for he had been waiting for him some time—Yorker requested Mr Evans to tell Vi Turner that he been looking for McDougall all over town and could not find him,— In the course of the Even^g was selected by Mr V B as one to take the prisoners on board the vessel. Mr V. B. appeared all night busy in executing the wishes of the Com^e—

[Signed] Jno B Evans

Marshall Crozier.* volunteered his testimony to show, that the Chief of Police had used no measures to inform the authorities of the operations of the Com^e, and knew of nothing which could be alledged against him for infidelity to his duty.

W^mHogg. testified, that he was on duty last night by request of Mr V.B. and was placed in the Executive Com^e room. while there heard a voice which he recognized as that of Dep^y Sh^f Caperton and stated the fact to Mr Evans.— Went out, on hearing it a second time, with all in the room. Saw Dep S. Caperton with a prisoner in each hand going towards the stairs.— Saw a man with his back against the door, (a member of the V. C.) & heard Caperton say he was an officer of the Co & must not be resisted—Caperton then called for the police,— Saw V. B. go to the door of the 2^d Story which overlooks the Street, he subsequently returned and stood with his fingers to his face and made no effort to resist the removal of the prisoners.— Mr V B together with the members of the Com^e, then followed the sheriff as he supposes to rescue the prisoners, but they did not attempt it & afterwards returned. W^m H. went to the Monumental house to ring the bell, but could not find the rope. Believes the man whom he saw with his back against the door, to have previously taken hold of Sheriff Hays.—

[Signed] W M Hogg

Dep^y Sheriff Caperton, being informed the object of the Com^e Stated he believed the persons in the room were so taken by surprise that they could not resist. While here removing the

* Robert G. Crozier was elected marshal, April 28, 1851. Soulé, *Annals*, p. 326.

[August 20, 1851]

prisoners was met by V. B. who did all he could short of shooting him, to prevent their abstraction, He had watched the mode of members entering the room and following their example, pushed in and without stopping rushed to the prison room and exclaimed I am the officer, I come to save you; the pris^{rs} jumped up, seized him by the collar, and hastened to go out with him. At the door met with resistance from persons at the door but assured V. B. that resistance was useless, they were too strong— He went out calling to M^r Hays to force the door open, and calling *police*,—Confirms the statement of the Governor & Mayor in relation to their mode of proceedure, and declares there was no collusion nor understanding between them and members of the V. C. nor did he nor M^r Hays receive any information from any members of the V. C. to aid them in obtaining possession of the prisoners—

Mr. Mallett. Was on duty at the door of the prisoners when the Sheriff came in. He rushed in saying M^c Kenzie & Whittaker come forward I am officer of the Co they rushed forward—seizing the sheriff and he them, and rushed toward the door. I pushed Whittaker back twice. but no persons coming to his aid M^c Kenzie & Whittaker got off Members of the V. C. rushed toward the door, but did not offer to help him. Is uncertain whether he saw V. B. in the crowd as he wears a coat similar to the sheriff. & could not discriminate between them believes if V. B. had acted with energy the prisoners could have been detained.—thinks a number of the Com would have acted if the Ch of Pol. had ordered them,

[Signed] J. H. Mallett

John A Steel. States, I kept the door from three oClock until the rescue of the prisoners Members of the Committee were constantly passing in and out some giving their numbers and some not doing so—at one time the Chief of Police called to me from the foot of the stairs to send him a certain man whose name I forget. I did call him and he passed out. the Chief returned some five minutes after, some few minutes after a man entered the door passed witness closely followed by another

[August 20, 1851]

as the witness endeavored to stop the first man he perceived the second to be the Sheriff of the County. he immediately called out to Van that the first man might be prevented from entering the prisoners room. immediately after, the first man returned having with him the 2 prisoners at this moment some member of the Committee placed his back against the door to assist witness in preventing the departure of the prisoners, at this time a rush was made from the outside of the door pushing it partially open, and pushing witness and Sheriff on one side & the members of the Committee upon the other at which time the deputy sheriff with his prisoners effected their escape the whole matter took the witness so much by surprise as almost to deprive him of power of resistance. I had received orders from the Chief not to allow any one to leave the room during his absence—

[Signed] John A Steele

Mr Payran Stated, that the Executive Com: having received instructions to complete the arrangements for the execution of the prisoners, they were on duty to that effect, when the following document was received from Mr Van Bokkelen

To the Executive Committee

Gents— I would respectfully report to your body that from information received. I deem it expedient & proper to remove the condemned prisoners Whittaker & Mc Kenzie to some proper place outside this building, where they will be at the proper time executed, in presence of the Committee of the whole

I would request that you allow me so to do and properly represent the subject to the Committee in the morning, when I feel confident they will approve of the step as for the sake of a small formality great evils may result

Yours Respt

[Signed] J. L. Van Bokkelen

Chief of Police

Committee Room Wednesday Morning 12½ O'clock 20th
August 1851

[Annotated:] Report adopted 12 o'clock & 50 M. A M.

S P—

[August 20, 1851]

Having then completed the arrangements as per annexed document⁶ he went to sleep having first assured himself that the Chief of Police was fulfilling his instructions. had sent two Committees to obtain vessels, Said Committees had reported two vessels as applicable one of which was selected. he V. B. had formed his guard for duty, and everything was quiet & tranquil in the room

In he supposes two minutes he was roused by the cry of *police, police*, but supposed it made by some of the guard passing out and did not notice it further,—Presently on going forward, he asked why the call was made, & was then told that the prisoners were gone, but he could not at first credit it, until in 10 minutes Mr V. B. came in, and when asked "Where have you been" where are the prisoners, was answered, they have been taken by the Sheriff,—while this matter was in progress some person I think some guard came to the Ex^e Com: & proposed that Whittaker would give bonds to 100,000 in this city if he could be sent out of the Country,—this party was informed that the Ex^e Com declined receiving any bonds.⁷

[Signed] Stephen Payran

Mr Hampton, being asked all he knew in reference to the abduction of the prisoners, replied he had accepted voluntary duty from 12 to 3. During this time he saw Vi Turner in the room,—he was told that some horses were at the door and was sent to see what it was,—ascertained it to be the carriage of Mr Mines.—Saw at the door a man named *York* and reported that there was nothing at the door the only person he saw being *York*—he was detailed for special duty at 6 A. M. and therefore at 3 O. C. went to bed. Soon after retiring heard a scuffle and cry of police, police,—Saw a scuffle at the door between the door keeper & Sheriff, but there was very little noise & resistance—

Mr Turner told me he had a good man named *York*, to be-

⁶ A duplicate of the Police Order of August 19, p. 522, is attached to this statement.

⁷ The *S. F. Herald*, August 22, reported that on Tuesday night Whittaker and McKenzie offered \$100,000 for their release, a large amount promised in cash, and the balance to be in bonds, guaranteed by men of unquestioned financial standing.

[August 20, 1851]

long to the V. C.— I objected seriously to him, but the explanation was given which reconciled me to his becoming a member. Believes a slight resistance on the part of the Com^e would have prevented the removal of the prisoner.

[Signed] R. B Hampton

Mr Nelligan (Yorker) States he was at the Union last night at 12 OC. at about 1 OC a number of persons were talking in the street before the Union of the contemplated execution & several then expressed a willingness to take part in it—Saw Col White in conversation with the Governor, and others in the back room of the Union—In the barroom saw Messrs Mellone & Turner the only members of the V.C. he recognised then—did not observe them in communication with the Governor Mr Mellone left before the Governor. then followed Col White with the Governor, Mr Turner & Mr Nelligan left afterwards. He saw no communication between Mr Turner & the Governor. During his walk down from the Union asked Mr Turner what would be done with the prisoners, received for reply he knew nothing about it.

[Signed] James Nilligan

Col White, *Sworn* I was sitting last even^g. in the Union to hear a song & saw the Gov in conversation with several persons. He then called me to him outside the door and asked me to go with [him] to Taafe & M^c Cahill Store to the Mayors office. The Mayor got up & met us: up to this time he had not told me his intentions—He then told the Mayor he came there to notify him of what was going on, & his intention to make a demonstration of carrying out the law—Going down to the Mayor's office, he told me that the V. C. were going to hang the prisoners.—has not the least remote idea who informed the Gov^r of the intention of the V. C. Cannot say what members of the V. C. were at the Union [think M^r Mellone was there in conversation with the Gov^r but supposed the subject was political.^s] Immediately after the Gov. left the Mayors office, seperated from

^s The words enclosed in brackets have been crossed out.

[August 20, 1851]

him, meeting several members of the V. C. told them that action the Governor & Mayor was about to take and advised their being early to work in order to counteract their interference.

Geo. W. White

Mr Parker. *Sworn* was on duty last night.—was stationed in the prisoners room & was requested by Mr V. B. to see that one of [them] who had asked to be shaved did not cut himself, was assured by him he would not attempt suicide. Soon after a person came into the room, called the names of Mc Kenzie & Whittaker,—had a paper in his hand & stated he was a Sheriff of the Co—called them to appear They jumped up as if struck by an electric shock, seeing this attempted to close the door but the Sheriff & prisoners were too quick—the prisoners were forced back twice by him & the guard outside the door, Mr V. B. came to the door & other members also but offered no assistance, seeing no aid at hand desisted from any further attempt to keep the prisoners Believes if Mr V. B. had given the order to defend the prisoners they could not have been taken away.

[Signed] Thomas B Parker

Mr Van Bokkelin ex chief of Police being sworn, deposes and says that pursuant to an arrangement agreed upon between himself and the Exe^e Com. and in Company with Judge Blackburn, he had made the selection of a proper place for the execution of the prisoners, which arrangement he came and reported to the Com^e. Immediately after such report he made the necessary detail of guards and other preparations for the execution as agreed upon between the Com. and himself.—To complete such arrangements it was necessary to leave the room twice, and was once in comp^y with Mr Stillman & the second time went to the foot of the stairs with Judge Blackburn, but resolved to send Stillman with Blackburn, & returned immediately to the Com Room.—Now; gave permission to have Mackenzie change his shirt & shave if a razor could be got; previous to this had changed the handcuffs with the object to save the good spring hand cuffs and lose the poorer ones: then woke up the guard to

[August 20, 1851]

assemble in the Com Room:—I read them the orders after it was assembled,—Mr Oakes & myself went out to get some refreshments in the refreshment room, in a moment as I was coming out thence I saw a man pass whom at first I thought was Stillman, but quickly heard the cry to stop him and the voice of Caperton, I ran over to the room and found the guard Mallett in a scuffle with Caperton & the prisoners: Witness immediately caught hold of Caperton, and turned him round, which brought him in front of a member of the Com^e with a drawn knife in his hand. At this time turned his eyes to the crowd assembled at the head of the stairs; Immediately went to the door & discovered Sheriff Hays with his back to the door, while there heard Sheriff Caperton coming from behind and calling *police*. Immediately took Sheriff Hays by the coat & drew him away to speak to him, begging him not to be rash. At this moment observed Mr Hull busy with the ropes at the door of the 2nd Story over the Street—Thought his object was to put it around the neck of the prisoner; learned however it was to let down a man to secure the door & give the alarm by the bell: Assisted to let him down but he fell.—On returning to the door, found the prisoners & Sheriff were gone, followed them as far as Montgomery but could get no sight, Coming back met the City marshall Crozier, exchanged a few words with him and returned to the Com Room—

It is not customary to lock the lower door,

Mr V B. has no knowledge of the person or persons who communicated to the Gov^r or any of the public authorities either at Benicia or here the intentions of the V. C. to execute the prisoners

[Signed] J. L. Van Bokkelen

Turner, *sworn*, I entered the room about 11½ O. C. I met Mr Wadsworth at the Union, who said he wished me at 8 O.C. tomorrow at the V.C. rooms. I objected from the inconvenience of early rising, but enquired why it was so desirable I should be there; was told because there would be an execution resolved then to go; & went up to get my pistol. On coming out

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met Mr Nelligan, who asked where I was going,—proposed he should walk with me, as I was going far down town; to the rooms of the V.C.—On the way Mr Gallagher met me, & asked if it was a fact that those two men are to be hung tomorrow morn^g expressed my doubt Mr Nelligan then repeated the enquiry, said I would go & ascertain the particulars at the Com room—

He asked for my pistol, which on promise of its return in the morn^g I lent him.—proposed his joining the Com^e, but he declined; said he would another time then told him I should stay at the room, when he returned my pistol. In the room assented to Mr. Van Bokⁿ request I should do a certain duty; but objected to go on a guard of 10 men in the morn^g though he was ready at the moment to go.— After sundry delays went in the executive Chamber and got in a dose, from which I was roused by the noise of scuffle in the room. did not converse with the Gov^r on the subject of the execution of the prisoners.—

[Signed] Vi. Turner.

The Committee respectfully submit the entire evidence taken and leave to the Vigelence Committee to judge for themselves of any culpability on the part of those entrusted with the charge of the prisoners last night and this morn^g

Your Committee while they feel it their duty to exonerate all from the least imputation of of bribery, or connivance at the escape of the prisoners feel it their duty to say that there was a great want of that usual care and caution the importance of the duty assigned them required, and that they deem the Chief of Police especially guilty of gross neglect and wanting in that energy and self controul which if properly exercised would have prevented the escape of the prisoners and thereby have saved the Vigelence Committee from the disgrace of neglect which must now rest upon it.

And Your Committee can not conclude without expressing their condemnation of the course taken by those members of the Vigelence Com^e who were so derelect in duty as to inform the Governor of the intended action of the Committee which rendered it imperative upon him to adopt the course he did which has so

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effectually checked the important action of the Vigilance Committee.

[Signed] J. D. Stevenson
 " Wm. Hart
 " C. V. Gillespie
 " Arthur B. Stout
 " S. Brannan
 " Henry S. Brown

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Police Order]

Chief of Police. Will please detail three men to accompany Mr Williams and take into custody the person pointed out by him.

By order of Executive Committee

[Signed] E. Gorham
 Pres^t Pro tem

Aug 22/51

[Annotated:] Prisoner delivered

[Signed] J. W Stillman Deputy

[Resolutions of the Santa Clara Vigilance Association. Case of Whittaker and McKenzie]

Vigilance Association Room
 Santa Clara August 22nd 1851.

At a meeting of the Santa Clara Vigilance Association, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted

Resolved 1st That we have learned with unfeigned astonishment that the notorious villains Whittaker [and] McKinney have been by an unwarantable interposition of the perjured authorities of San Francisco rescued from the custody of the Vigilance Committee, and the fruitful investigations of said Committee have thereby been most shamefully interfered with. A rescue under such circumstances from an association so powerful

[August 22, 1851]

and so perfectly organized presents a problem, difficult to be solved. We fear there is a Judas in the camp.

Resolved 2nd That we hereby renew the tender of our unqualified services to be commanded by the shortest notice. We therefore trust the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco will not hesitate to call a requisition (upon necessary occasions) on our feeble but hearty cooperation.

Resolved 3rd That we denounce in the most bitter and unqualified terms the recent shameful conduct, of Gov McDougal in prostrating the high prerogative of his office to giving aid and encouragement to the hordes of burglars and murderers who infest every portion of our unfortunate country.

Resolved 4th That this meeting has been called and the foregoing resolutions have been adopted as expressive of our feelings and sentiments, touching the late unfortunate rupture between the authorities and the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco.

Resolved Lastly That the Secty transmit a copy of these resolutions to the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco.

[Signed] Edwin Gates Secty.

Vigilance Association

Joel Clayton President

[Letter from William Carey Jones]

San Francisco, 22 August, 1851.

To the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco

Supposing that you will have better and prompter means of investigation and detection than I can command, I desire to call to your attention a recent assassination committed within the City limits. Thomas Wheeler came to California in Nov^r. last, from Washington City, with Col. Fremont. About the middle of July he left the service of Mr^s Fremont, then living in "Pleasant Valley," and went into the establishment called the *Union* at the corner of Kearney and Merchant Streets. He continued in that place only a few days, and went to service at the public house called *the Nightingale*, at the end of the plank road. He left there, on leave of absence for the night, about two weeks since—as near as can be recollected on Saturday evening.

[August 22, 1851]

9th inst., about 8 o'clock. He was not afterward seen or heard of till Monday or Tuesday last, when his body was found, in a state of decomposition, in the woods about a hundred yards beyond the bridge at the right of the Mission Road. An inquest was held by the Coroner on Tuesday, & he was subsequently buried by the city sexton. After the inquest he was seen & the body recognized by several who knew him; & the identity is also proved by articles found on his body & by his clothing. I was informed that Mr Hays, brother of the deputy sheriff, and who keeps a house on the *old* mission road, was the person who discovered the body.

[Signed] W^m Carey Jones¹

[Addressed:]

To the Executive Committee of the Vigilance Committee
San Francisco

[*Letter from the Secretary of the Sonora Committee of
Vigilance*]

Sonora 22 Aug 1851

S. Payran Esq

Pres Ex Com San F V.C

Sir I have just received a communication from the Secretary of the Stockton V. C. enclosing a Copy of letter received from you referring to a man said to be a partner of Hetherington, by the name of Antone²—and who is supposed to be in Sonora. The object of this communication is to request some description of the man to guide us—"Antone" is a name common enough among Mexicans and Chilenos, even supposing the man has not changed his, which he would be likely enough to have done, witnessing the disposition made of his confederates—

You may feel assured that any clue you may afford us will

¹ William Carey Jones first came to the state in 1849, as a confidential agent of the U. S. Government, to investigate and report upon the subject of land titles in California. He was a brother-in-law of Col. John C. Frémont, the explorer, and for this reason he was particularly interested in the disappearance of a servant attached to the Frémont family. He appeared as a witness when Harding and Olligin were on trial for Wheeler's murder. See also pp. 522, 579.

² See p. 477.

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be strictly followed up, and under the present exciting state of things, I would wish to add, that our Com. offers its cordial support to V. C. of San Francisco

I am, Sir with Respect

your obt Svt

[Signed] William Perkins

Secy of Sonoro Com

[*Letter from A. G. Randall*]

San Francisco Aug. 22/1851

To The Chairman and Members of Executive Committee V. C.

Gentlemen, On the 9th inst I had the honor to receive from your body the appointment of "Collector of Dues and Fines" and according to your instructions proceeded immediately to perform the duty assigned me. I devoted considerable time to calling on members who are indebted to the association for their dues and with a great deal of trouble succeeded in collecting about \$200.00 of dues, which amount I paid to the Treasurer—

I subsequently turned my accounts over to Mr. Oakley who had been appointed assistant to my predecessor, Mr. Wells—My business engagements will not admit of my acting longer as your Collector, and I would cheerfully recommend that Mr. Oakley be appointed in my stead

Expressing to you my willingness to serve the Committee in anything that lays in my power

I remain

Your ob't serv't

[Signed] A. G. Randall

Examination of Convicts August 22nd 1851

John Luckhurst—Ship *Edgar*³ says that he is not a convict refers to Capt Munroe Mr Nichols W^m Richardson Discharged on recognizance to appear again

³ The *Edgar*, Captain Smith, arrived from Sydney August 21, with 120 passengers (*S. F. Herald*, August 22). Thirty-two passengers and five of the crew were reported upon by the committee of investigation. Four were considered suspicious characters, among them Johanna, wife of Thomas Scott, whom the Committee had already transported.

[August 22, 1851]

Michael Ryan—*Edgar*,

John Hobbs Ditto convicted for Treason has 20£ English—

James Webb has a Wife *Robert Bowne* for an Assault & Battery on a Lieut on H. B. M. . . .⁴ only a few Pounds—Discharged on reporting every 48 [hours]

Lawrence Higgins *Robert Bowne* 69 years of age no meansJames Roach *Robert Bowne*, Convict no means

William Alderson *Robt Bowne* Street Robbery Sausage Machine—

Selim E Woodworth Esq appointed a Committee to obtain Passages for the Convicts

William Tenant, form Sydney—36 years old

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of General Meeting Aug 23. 1851

Mr Selim Woodworth in the chair

On motion

Resolved That names of Candidates for the Office of Chief of Police be submitted at this meeting and voted for at next meeting & That the vote be taken by ballot

Resignation of Mr Charles Gulliver was read, and laid on the table, and check for 100\$ accepted—

On motion Mr Brannan

Resolved That the names of delinquent members be read on Tuesday evening next

On motion Mr Brannan

Resolved That the Treasurer of the V Committee make a full report on Tuesday evening next—

On motion Mr Geo R Ward

Resolved That each member of Com of V be assessed the sum of five dollars to defray the current expenses of August

On motion adjourned

[Signed] I Bluxome Jr

Secretary—

⁴ Illegible.

[August 23, 1851]

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

*J L Van Bocklin Aug 23, 1851*San Francisco August 23rd 1851

To the President of the Vigilance Committee

Sir Owing to the unhappy circumstances which transpired on Morning of 20th inst. and the feeling existing therefrom amongst the members of the committee, and the unkind expressions towards me; and feeling a deep interest, in the continued prosperity of the cause to which others as well as myself, have devoted their gratuitous time & labour, I feel as though my usefulness, for the time being was impaired, and my continuance in office might make others lukewarm I therefore beg to resign the Post of Chief of Police with assurances of continued interest in the welfare of the committee, trusting that the time may soon arrive when all may do me justice as my duties have been preformed to the best of my abilities without pay or pecuniary reward of any kind

Yours Resp^t

[Signed] J. L. Van Bockkelen

[Annotated:] Accepted.

[Endorsed:] To be referred to General Committee Augt
23/51

[*Examination of W. L. Harding*¹]

Executive Chamber Aug 23. 1851

Present Messrs J B Huie A J Ellis Bromley
Kelley Smith & Payran Presdt

W^m L Harding examined Born in Mayland arrived in California in December 1849. arrived from Boston in Barque *Eurota*. Came as Second Mate. have been to Oregon & Panama since I arrived here, went as a sailor in an English Ship to Panama—returned here in the English Barque *Barbalarly* on 29th August 1850. went to Oregon last November was there 4½ mo^s was in the lumber trade for Dr Trogan [?] in Oregon, shipped for Ottinger & Brown—when I returned stopped a month—went to the mines in April 1851 went top[?]

¹ See p. 522.

[August 23, 1851]

fork of American River, engaged as a miner with a man by the name of Jno Smith another by name of Randal first month cleared my board, brought here 250.—got my Dust changed in Sacramento arrived here 16th August—put up at the Clinton House on Clarks Point, dont know Olligin hired two horses for him & me I started after 12 oclck to ride the other prisoner started at the point with me—first I hired one horse then asked him to go along—Then another man came to the stable with us—went out of town together, alway knew him by the name of little Jack—dont know his other name—hired horse for a ride to the mission know Nooly Carney,² stopped at his house on Sunday night have known Nooly Carney since last winter

Why did you run away when called to stop? was so drunk—I did not know what I was doing—was whipped on board the Steamer *Spitfire* three years since while on the coast of Mexico—

[Resolution]

Resolved That Mr Austin be authorized to proceed forthwith and institute legal proceedings against Ships *Adirondack* & *Robert Bowne* according to the Statute Laws of this State.

[Letter from Mr. J. Clarke]

Dear Sir

In regard to the convicts, *you*, not *I* must decide what course to adopt.

You may *prosecute* for the *crime*, in which case you have only to send before a justice of the Peace, say Justice Sheperd, a person or two who will swear to facts sufficient to justify an arrest. The Justice will issue the warrant and you have only to point out the offenders. The punishment is imprisonment. You get no money. Again if you wish to bring a civil suit for the penalty of \$1000, you may do so against the captain, and I am very confident, the owners, but you cannot *hold to bail*. In no case can you arrest the *Ship* in the first instance, I am per-

² This is a reference to Wooley Kearny, an undesirable citizen who was banished by the Vigilance Committee of 1856. Bancroft, *Popular Tribunals*, II, 279.

[August 23, 1851]

fectly ready to commence a suit either in the District or Superior Court, for the penalty, when ever you may decide that is advisable to do so. It would of course be some weeks before it could be tried.³

Very respectfully

[Signed] J Clarke

San Francisco Aug 23, 1851

[Addressed:]

To S. Payran

President of the Executive of the Vigilance Committee

[*Report of a Meeting of Citizens*]

At a Meeting of Citizens of San Francisco, Aug 23 1851

Fred A Woodworth Called to Chr

Geo. R. Ward apt Secy

Motion of Mr Earle, *Resolved* that a Com of 13 be appointed to report to the meeting on Tuesday evening a ticket to be recommended to the State & County and to draft a proper address to our fellow citizens.⁴

³ The act prohibiting the importation of convicts into the state made any person who should offend against the provisions of the statute liable to three months' imprisonment and a fine of \$1000, one-half of which should go to the party prosecuting for the offense, and one-half to the county in which the prosecution should be held. *California Statutes*, 1850, Chapter 82.

⁴ This brief report showed the beginning of a movement that resulted in the presentation of an Independent county ticket at the state and county election, September first. The action was not officially endorsed by the Committee of Vigilance, and resolutions passed on the 26th (p. 551) and the resignation of J. F. Spence (p. 552) indicated strong disapproval on the part of some. But it was generally considered to have originated under the influence of the organization, owing to the fact that the initial meeting was held at headquarters and that announcement of the ticket, published in the papers of August 28th and thereafter, was subscribed to by at least seventy-nine of the Committee, out of a total of 203 signatures. Seventeen independent nominations were made, and endorsement was given to fifteen candidates on the regular Democratic and Whig tickets. From 1000 to 1300 ballots were cast for the former group, none of whom were elected, but the strength of the movement was sufficient to ensure the election of all but one of the regular candidates endorsed by the Independents.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Order for the Re-arrest of Whittaker and McKenzie]

Capt. Cartwright:

You are hereby authorized to detail a guard such as you think proper, and arrest two Prisoners to wit—Sam Whittaker & R Mackensie and bring them, into custody of the Committee of Vigilance

Done by order of Executive

Committee August 22 A D 1851

[Signed] James B Huie

Attest S Payran

Secty.

[Annotated:'] Executive Com^e of Vigilance Com^e

S. Francisco Aug. 24./51

Agreeably to your orders above I detailed (30) Thirty men who proceeded in Three Divisions under the respective orders of Col G. W. White, Capt Calhoun & Mr Oscar Smith & in the short space of 5 minutes from the first charge the Prisoners above named were on their way to your Head Quarters—

Respy

[Signed] J W Cartwright

[Police order]

Executive Chamber Vigilance Committee

Cpt. Clark.

Sir You will detail a sufficient number of men to proceede with you, on board the "Brig" *Hallowell* and arrest the Capt.

¹ This order, with its annotated report, is the only official record of the recapture of Whittaker and McKenzie. Entrance to the jail was effected on Sunday afternoon, just at the close of a religious service held for the prisoners. The two men were seized without effective resistance on the part of Captain Lambert, who was in charge at the time, were rushed to a carriage outside, and driven furiously to headquarters. No time was lost in executing the sentences already pronounced, and the prisoners were immediately hung from two beams that projected above the Committee's rooms.

[August 24, 1851]

of that vessel on a charge of Murder,—or wherever else you may find him.²

[Signed] S. E. Woodworth

Presdt—V. C.

In the absence of the Chairman of the Ex. Com. of V. C.

[Endorsed:] Rep^d with Prisoner August 24/51

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of General Meeting Aug 26. 1851

Mr Fred Woodworth in the Chair

Minutes of previous meeting read & approved

Donations received from the following Gent Mr E De'lesaret 200\$. B Cahoon 50.\$ & J J Chauviteau 50.\$ ordered that the Secretary address a letter of thanks to the Gent for the same

On motion

The Committee went into ballot for Chief of Police to fill vacancy—occasioned by the resignation of Mr Van Bocklyn

W Oscar Smith received 128 votes—J W Rider 8—Ja^s King of W^m 2 F Argenti 1 R Calhoon 1. J W Cartwright 1—W Oscar Smith was declared elected

On motion Mr Brannan

Resolved That a subscription list be opened for the benefit of Mr Berdu¹

On motion Dr Stout

Resolved That in future no citizens be allowed to use this room for purposes other than those of the Vigilance Committee

² See p. 572.

¹ On August 25, F. A. Woodworth, Isaac Bluxome Jr., George Mellus and J. F. Spence testified in the San Francisco Court of Sessions that they had heard Stuart and Whittaker confess to the attack on Jansen and exonerate Berdue and Windred of any share in the crime, and Berdue, already formally cleared of the murder of Moore, was then discharged from the sentence imposed at the time of his conviction for the assault in San Francisco. Jansen, finding that Berdue was penniless, offered to return the money taken from him at the time of his arrest, and at the suggestion of the judge, a subscription was immediately started for his benefit. *S. F. Herald*, August 26.

[August 26, 1851]

By Mr Delasaret [Seconded by Br Sanders No. 156 Sam¹ Moss Jr.²]

WHEREAS—Charley Duane by whose violence the lives of two unoffending citizens have been endangered, one of which was Mr Ball a juror is by an uncomprehensible act of executive clemency again at large in this community after having been duly tried and sentenced according to law³

Resolved That said Charley Duane have notice to leave this City of San Francisco and not to return under penalty of *Death* and that this act of the Governor meets with our unqualified disapprobation—

The above resolution was adopted—but ordered, That no action be taken on this subject until it is ascertained positively that pardon has been granted

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Resolution]

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret that we learn that a Political ticket for the coming County Election has been put forth, purporting to emanate from certain members of this association—and believing it ruinous to the objects of our formation, for us to recognise any ticket of a Political Character—

Resolved that this Committee disavow all participation in the formation of the said ticket, and wish it distinctly understood that they will in no manner lend it their countenance or support. as the Committee of Vigilance.

[Annotated:] passed & ordered printed *

[Resolution]

223 [L. Tufts] Motion, that this Committee do, from this time henceforth disapprove of any political question be brought before the Committee in this room

² The words enclosed in brackets are from the draft of the resolution.

³ Duane, sentenced to a year's imprisonment for the attack on F. A. Ball, was promptly pardoned by Governor McDougal.

⁴ This notice appeared in the *Alta California*, August 28.

[August 26, 1851]

[Resignation of J. F. Spence]

San Francisco August 26th 1851

To the President of the Vigilance Committee San Francisco

Sir It is with unfeigned regret I find that our excellent body, as a Vigilance Committee, has degenerated into a political Association, under an assumed name, I hereby desire for that reason, that my name be taken off the Books of the Vigilance Committee as I shall no longer consider myself to be one of its Members

Trusting that the action of last night may not injure the good cause of the Vigl^{ce} Comt^{ee} as I fear it must

I am

Yours respectfully

[Signed] John. F. Spence

[Letter from Eugene Delessert]

San F^{co} 26th Augst 1851

To the Secretary of The committee

Dear Sir Wishing to help the Committee not only with my faithful attendance but also to share the enormous expenses—lately occured—

I beg of you the favor to accept this small gift⁵ as a token of my hearty approval of the conduct of the Committee

[Signed] E. D. 439

[Addressed:]

To the Secretary of the Committee

[Police Order]

[Capt of Police⁶]

David Calderwood Head of Sacramento Street

John Strathern North of George Glay's Happy Valley

Hugh Murdock head of Washington Street

William Gray Eagle Bakery Stockton Street

[Signed] Stephen Payran

⁵ \$200. See Minutes.⁶ The words enclosed in brackets have been crossed out.

[August 26, 1851]

These witnesses are wanted to testify in the case of David Earl
Aug 26 1851

[Annotated:] John Strahem to be requested to get witnesses
for Prisoner

Prisoner wishes to be confronted with Rowland

Order for Arrest of Martin Sanphy & Wife, Aug 26. 1851
Capt Thomas

You are requested to detail a Guard and arrest Pat Sweeney
and Mrs Connolly now Sanphy and bring them before this Com-
mittee⁷

Done by order of Committee

August 26 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G W Ryckman

Sec pro-tem

[Annotated:] Returned with Pat Sweeney at 2 o'clock.—
Could not find Mrs. Connolly nor her place of residence—Neither
Mr. Henesy.—

[Signed] R Hochkofler

No 266

[*Evidence concerning Mrs. Sanphy and Pat Sweeney*]

Martin Sanphy—Native of Ireland, I left Dublin for Liver-
pool, I left Liverpool on board the *Ann Drummadel* Capt Colt-
ish, bound for Hobart Town Sydney 18th July 1839 to better
my Condition for Life, I left Launceston 9th May 1850 for Cali-
fornia on Board *Spartan* Hennessey—Ferguson, White, Bloyd,
Owen, French, Rice, (North Beach stops at White's) I do not
recollect any others by name that came here—I recollect Thomas
the Baker in Vallejo Street—I loaned Capt O'Donnell at the
Ohio House, in Dupont Street \$1250 when I came here at 8
per cent a month—I have not yet received all the Principal nor
all the Interest—I went into no business—I lived at Curtis's
in Broadway two or three months from the time I arrived here

⁷ Sweeney and Mrs. Connolly had been brought to the attention of the
Committee long before this date. See footnotes on pp. 53 and 132.

[August 26, 1851]

—I lived two or three months at Hennessey's at the North Beach, I was about one month at the mines, I worked at the mines—at the rate of \$100 a month—I came back about a month since, I have not lived at any other places nor any other Persons from the time I arrived until this time, excepting the time I lived with my wife Mrs Connolly in Nelson's House

[Signed] Martin Sanphy

Attest S Payran

I lost \$1220 by my wife—I brought out between 2 & \$3000 from the Colonies, from the time I arrived & for four months paid \$12 or [15^s] a week for Board, I worked as a day laborer at out doors work—I do not think that I worked one day in a week since I came to California, (I except the three or four weeks that I worked at the Mines) I have not kept store or Tavern since I came into the Country—the \$1220 stolen from me by my wife was in \$50 pieces excepting two \$10 pieces—

Martin Sanphy, I am married to a woman by the name of Connolly, she wanted me to go to Marysville a week ago to go into business I went up and took a House deposited \$100 and came down for her, to day we were to go by the Steamer, she sent her Boxes with me, I put them (the Boxes) on board, she then said she was going to a friend's House and come for her, I went, but she had not been there, she put her clothes in a Box and sent it away I do not know where— Wilson who owned the House where we lived took charge of it, I do not know where she is— I know that Wilson and a man called Pat Sweeney are companions of hers—she took \$1220 from me, she gave me to understand that the money was in the Boxes

[Signed] Martin Sanphy

William Wright, I was born in Dublin, I went to Philadelphia I landed at New York and from thence to Philad^a—I arrived in Philad^a in 1841 I lived in Phil^a between 5 & 6 years—I lived at the corner of 2nd & Pine with Mr Brown a Boot &

^s Crossed out.

[August 26, 1851]

Shoemaker I went to Baltimore I worked with Mr Hazy in Pratt Street Boot & Shoemaker, I left Baltimore for California last month two years for California by way of the Horn on Board the *Cyclone*—and arrived in September 1849. I went into the Q. M. Department as a Groom—I held this situation for eight months, I then went to Trinity Mines—lost about \$800 and came back again, last July a year—I live at Sonoma but I have been staying at Mr Holms on Dupont Street, between Jackson & Washington Street, I have known Sweeney 12 or 15 Mos he (Sweeney) boarded in a House kept by Mrs Regan in Dupont Street, I lost a good deal of money there. I hired Pat Sweeney to drive Team a week since, I asked him a month since, I am staying here now, he has not commenced driving yet, Mr Miller is my master, I bought the Team Mr Welch is to pay—he, Mr Miller is up for assembly—

I know Mr^s Connolly—

[The following Statements are in a consecutive series, dated August 26 to 31.]

John Hennesey *sw[orn]* I know Pat Sweeney, William Wilson, Jane Connolly & Martin Sanphy, Pat Sweeney has been in S.F. about one year, he went to the Mines, and returned about nine months since he worked awhile on a scow between S.F. and Marysville, he boarded with Mr^s Regan and lately with me, I have seen Mr^s Connolly speaking with Pat Sweeney—I have seen Wilson speak with Mr^s Connolly, Sanphy has been at the Mines, he married the woman Connolly about three weeks since, Sanphy and myself went up to Marysville about a week on last Saturday, he, Sanphy took a House from a Frenchman & paid him an \$100 I took a House of Robert Ogden paid \$60

I am to get possession of it on the 1st September I believe Sanphy had money, he came down from Marysville to take his wife up, he found his wife, and prepared to go—I saw her yesterday an hour or so before the Steamboat hour she came to my House to bid my wife good bye, her Husband was with her, Sweeney was riding about with Wright the greater part of the day, he was at my House in the morning I am not certain as to whether he slept at my House with Wilson the night previous.

[August 26, 1851]

he was at my House last night about 7. o'Clock with Wilson, Wilson was drunk, Sweeney was not sober, Pat Sweeney was not at my House at the time of Wilson's arrest, I have not seen M^{rs} Connolly nor Sanphy since 2. OClock P M of Yesterday, I do not know where she has gone to she has no Trunk or Box at my place, I do not know that Pat Sweeney or Wilson carried a Box for her I heard Wilson say that she was a bad woman, and that he would not go into his House while she was there, she lived at Wilson' House in company with her Husband, Wilson slept frequently at my House there is a man by the name of Morrison and his wife living at Wilson House, I presume that they and M^{rs} Connolly took care of the place, when Wilson slept at my House, Wilson is a timid man, and I think he was afraid to go home, Sanphy had heard some tales to the discredit of M^{rs} Connolly before his marriage, I believe M^{rs} Connolly's character to be bad I have no doubt her leaving her Husband was for the purpose of robbing her Husband

Witness discharged on condition that he report in relation to M^{rs} Connolly August 26th 1851

James McCowan, I am a resident of San Francisco at the time that Irish Dick was executed at Hang Town⁹ I resided there, a man called Woolley attempted to rescue Irish Dick, he offered his Horse Saddle & Bridle to escape with, Woolley nearly murdered a man called Ben who was assisting to execute Dick, Woolley was notorious as a breaker of the Peace, was a fighting man, I do not know what Woolley's occupation was at Hangtown, the Authorities would have taken Woolley for the Assault & Battery on Ben, but Woolley escaped, I know of no other breach of the Peace except the attempt on Ben—this Woolley is about San Francisco, I believe him to be a dangerous man, he is

⁹ One of the first recorded lynchings in California took place in January, 1849, at the mining camp known as Dry Diggings (now Placerville), when three men, proved robbers and suspected murderers, were hung from a tree in the center of camp. The affair was an example of brutal mob violence and for some time the settlement was popularly known as Hangtown, and justified the title by other executions from the branches of the same tree. The sensational lynching of Richard Crone or Cronin, known as Irish Dick, is related in detail by Bancroft, in *Popular Tribunals*, I, 155.

[August 26, 1851]

about 5 ft 8 in heavy set, light complexion light hair somewhat curly his nose above the bridge is somewhat flat, the point turns a little to one side

[Signed] James McCowan

Pat Sweeney, I am from Van Dieman's Land, I left Launceston about 18 mo^s since, I sometimes work as a Shipwright, and sometime on the River, I knew Connolly and his wife, I have known her since his death, been intimate with her, she came down frequently to the place where I boarded, at Mr Hennessey—I have seen her at Hennessey seven or eight times at least, I have taken her home twice Mrs Hennessey has asked me to take her home, she slept at Hennessey two nights, Hennessey slept with me at the time, I have been acquainted with her since she married Sanphy—I have been in company with her several times since her marriage with Sanphy—I was in company with her on the day she left San Fran^o I carried some Trunks & Bedding from the North Beach to Hennessey for Sanphy, which I am informed belonged to her—After she married Sanphy, Wilson & myself carried them up to Wilson House, it was the night they were married, I do not know where Mrs Connolly is nor where she intended to go to

Attest S Payran

August 27th 1851

Mrs Sanphy left the Carpet Bag in my charge for a young man by the name of Latham who is at the mines, I left it with Mr Radford for safe keeping—she gave it to me on the morning that she was going away—at Wilson's House she asked me to keep the Bag for this young man—she said that she had given Latham an order to receive his box sometime before,

William Wilson—I came from Tahiti, I have been in S. F. four years, I now live corner of Dupont & Francisco Streets, I do not do any business there, I let it out to two families, Mr Sanphy & Mr Morrison, I keep a room in it for myself, I knew her in Connolly's life time, I have known her since his Death, I have been intimate with her since her marriage with Sanphy—I have often sat with her—

[August 26, 1851]

I was born in Ireland, do not know what year I left Ireland in 1841, in the *Agnes Ewing* bound for Sydney—300 & upwards of Passengers, no Soldiers on board she left Liverpool, they were Emigrants, I did not pay two pounds, do not think I have my Emigration Papers—I worked for Mr Scott about 18 Mo^s at New Castle I then came to Sydney, and worked for Mr Harris about 18 Mo^s, I then went to Tahite with a friend by the name of Miles, where I was nearly two years,

I saw her (Mr^s Connolly) on the day that she was going away, she said she was going to Marysville

In the Matter of David Earl

David Calderwood— I know David Earl, I knew Earl in Scotland and his Father's family in Scotland I have known him two and a half years in America, in San Francisco he was in the employ of Sims—and built for Cross Hobson & Co, he is considered a sort of Libertine, I never knew him guilty of any crime such as Burglary—if he has ever been guilty of such crime it must have arisen from his prosecution on the charge of Bigamy, so far as I know anything of him, I would not think that he would be guilty of Stealing

[Signed] David Calderwood

Stephen Payran— I know David Earl since May 10th 1851, I know him as a Carpenter from Earl & Massey, I employed them to build for me, and also for Toland & Hart, they completed their contract in relation to Toland & Hart, mine was a little delayed, so far as my business transaction with them I cannot find any fault, I never heard the character of Earl called in question until since the Execution of Jenkins by the Vigilance Committee since then implicated by Stuart, & Whittaker; of my own knowledge I know nothing

[Signed] S Payran

George P. Melvill, I know David Earl, I have known him since last October, I never knew anything against his character for honesty, except the charge against him of Bigamy, he was an industrious man

[Signed] G P Melville

[August 26, 1851]

William A Rowland, who had been previously examined *ex parte*, now reproduced at the instance of Mr Earle, who desired to be confronted August 30th 1851

Earl, Under what circumstances did we become acquainted?

Rowland, My wife took a House of him I do not know Earl guilty of any dishonesty,

Attest S Payran

Richard E. Rowland—August 31st 1851

E. What were the circumstances by which we became acquainted?

Answer—My Mother took a House of Earl about December 1849.

E. Did you or your Father ever employ me to build a House

Answer—My Father employed Earl to build him a House, I merely acted for my Father, I signed no contract, my age at that time was Fifteen Years—

E. What time did your Mother die

Answer—December

E. Where there any arrangements between your Father, yourself and myself in relation to money for her Interment

Ans—There may have been—my Father borrowed some money of Mr Earl, I do not know the amount, the money was paid the whole amount borrowed of Earl was \$700

Earl What security did I receive from your Father for the repayment of the money

Ans: I Believe my Father gave his note for it

Earl. Do you remember how the \$700 was paid

Ans: I have your acknowledgement for it

Earl—You stated that I robbed your Father state under what circumstances

Ans: In 1850 we, Father Sister & myself were out at the House of Earl—he Earl said that he had been at our House & lifted the window and said that he saw the Bed and clothes tumbled, that is the reason why we had suspicion, the amount was about 50 or \$60—the robbery had been done by some one

[August 26, 1851]

well acquainted with the place—and Earl was well acquainted with it—

E. Do you recollect your Father saying that he lost but \$7—and that it was a good thing he had put his money in his Boot and that was safe

Ans. I do not—

Earl—Did your Father owe me any money at the time of Robbery

Ans: I believe he did;

Earl—Did you not suspect that some other Person might have robbed the House

Answer—No one knew the House as well as you did—

Earl—Did you or your father ever pay for the House

Answer, We did pay for it and have your Acknowledgement—& can produce it

Earl—Do you recollect the time your Father bought Butter to Amt of \$300 of Macondra & Co

Answer I do not recollect, my father & myself were not in Partnership at the time of buying the Butter but were shortly afterwards

E. Did you ever ask me for money to buy on your own account

Ans: I do not. I recollect asking you to advance me money

Earl—Did I advance your Father or yourself the money to buy the Butter

Answer—I do not remember of your making any advance

Earl—Were you a party to the purchase of the Butter

Ans, I was not,

I have no other questions to ask witness

Attest S Payran

W^m A. Rowland

Earl, Do you recollect of your purchasing Butter of Macondra & Co to the amount of about \$300

Ans. I do; I purchased it for myself I do not recollect the time about a year & half ago

[August 26, 1851]

Earl—Do you recollect calling on me a year ago about this time to borrow some money to pay for Butter of M & Co

Ans. I do recollect calling on you—and borrowing some money to pay for the Butter

Earl—Was your son Richard in Company with you in the selling of the Butter?

An: I cannot say; the amount was more than \$200

Earl How was the money returned to me by you

Ans: I paid it all in Cash

Parties are called upon to produce accounts & settlements—

Earl has no further question

Examined by Mr Miller I do not recollect buying any Lumber of the Ship *Huron*—Jacob Addis bought it, I agreed to pay for the Lumber bought of the *Huron*—I gave my Note for it, the Lumber was purchased in May 1850,

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Police Order*]

To Chief of Police

Sir You are hereby ordered to detail a Guard to bring before this Committee the person of a man named George a bar Keeper for Mr Felts he lives next to Mr Horn or Hall in Battery St beyond Mission St

By order of

Ex Committee

S Payran

pr I B Jr

San Francisco Aug 27, 1851

[Annotated:] The Police report that the man George has gone home; he left about 4 months since

9 P M Aug 27./51

[*Statements of T. W. Harper Case of Michael Kelly*]

Thomas W. Harper— Says from information I have received Michael Kelly has been on and about the premises of

[August 27, 1851]

Michael Folly, at the Mission, from the time he was missing until yesterday—Yesterday application was made to Mr Langdon's family beyond the house of Folly and oposite the Pavilion—the application was [for] the purpose of obtaining permission for this Kelly to stop at the tent where Mr Langdon now is, about 16 miles from the Mission, near or back of Sanches's rancho. A man working for Langdon & Langdon's boy—saw Kelly pass yesterday. The boy will go with any one coming there. During the time that Kelly was stopping at Folly's house he slept in Folly's house at night and remained in the bushes in the day time. When seen yesterday his beard was very long and his general appearance much changed. This information of Mr Harper was received from Alfred A Green, who had a personal interview with Langdon's family this morning.

Aug 27. 1851

[Signed] Tho^s W. Harper

[Statement of Peruvian Angel Case of Sweeney]

Peruvian Angel, I was born in Havana I came to San Francisco last September I follow the sea, I brought Segars to Committee room for Pat Sweeney, I heard of Sweeney being in Prison at Hennessey I am in the habit of going to Hennessey I am intimate with Pat Sweeney—I boarded with Schofield and while I was gone to the Islands Schofield run away, I met Pat Sweeney who told me, I have seen Pat there Portuguese Jim (I believe he has gone to Sydney) Mr Yates—(I believe, he has gone to Sydney)

[Statements. Case of Quick, alias Tanner or Turner¹]

San Francisco Aug^t 21—/51 Agreeably to the order from the Executive Com^e of V. C. dated Aug 19./51—

I proceeded to Martinez to arrest Joseph Turner—I found him at once & arrested him he & his Wife Stated to me that they came from London dir[e]ct 16 mos since to this City—&

¹ See documents of June 14 to 16 for earlier references to Turner, Mrs. Yates, the murder of Brewer and the robbery of Robert's jewelry store.

[August 27, 1851]

were married 10 mos since—& that they both took in Washing now for a Livelihood he Washing and she Ironing—I could not learn of their Committing any offensive acts in Martinez they both knew Sam Whittaker Mrs T. has a Father & Mother living in this City She is about 18 years old—They have both stated to parties in Martinez that they came from Sydney—Mrs T has stated to Mrs Hawkins of M— that Turner was not their real name—They Have lived in San Francisco & Benicia also I consider Mrs T. a depraved woman She appears to possess the ruling genius—Owing to the discrepancies of their Statements as to whence they came & their acquaintance with notorious & bad men I arrested him. I searched their House Thoroughly & did not find anything suspicious—except a few Watchmakers Tools—which are in your room—

Respy

[Signed] John W. Cartwright

To The Ex Come of V. C. San Francisco

Charles Stewart, If I were to see Tanner, Turner, alias Thomas Quick, I would know him, *Prisoner brought in and recognized as, Turner alias Tom Quick,* he Turner came to my House on Saturday, and Brewer was killed on Sunday I have seen him in company with a man nearly of his own make, about two months since, say June 1st or thereabouts, on the Monday following the time he came to my House Tom Quick was taken up for the murder of Brewer, he got out of Prison and came back to my House, he remained at my House with his Wife four or five days, and then left, *Turner denies ever having gone by any other name than Turner*—Brewer came to by House on Sunday Morning Turner came day before they seemed to recognize each other, talked and drank together, and in the afternoon they went out together, I went with Brewer to a House in Pacific Street kept by Miller we drank together again. I left Brewer near the City Hall, a colored man came to him, Brewer and took him away and I went home, I became acquainted with Brewer while I lived at Mr^s Ryan, this was about seven months since, I knew Sam Whittaker at that time at Mr^s Ryan's with whom he lived, I saw Brewer have one bag of gold Dust, my wife

[August 27, 1851]

is the Daughter of a man known as Wall top of Broadway, I did not know a family by name of Gamble top of Broadway, I never attacked any man to obtain money from them, I do not know any families

Turner states that he left the Port of London in the Brig *John* in 1833 for Sydney I left as a Servant to Capt Wright of the 50 Regt and came to California about thirteen months since—

Three of the Tools Turner says that he got from Mr Felts Barkeeper in Happy Valley he gave them to me, Mr Felts saw them I have no doubt the other two I brought out with me

Julius Henry Robart— I have seen the man Turner in my Store in Dupont Street, I do not recollect—I have seen Turner's wife several times in my store in Dupont Street

Mrs Jane Yates— One of the men who was with Swan at the time he gave the watch to my husband came to my house this morning and I sent a young man for a constable he could not find one—and came to the Committee room to give information—

This mans name is James Smith—he is about 6 ft high—fair complexioned—&c—

William Hughes alias Swan is in town—on the night that Elleard—Hossefros & Spence came in to my house—I had been carrying some clothes home—the parties were burned out and I could not find them—on the Sunday my husband was taken—

As I was going down the street one day I met Belcher Kay—James Smith—Hughes alias Swan going into my door as I was going out When I came back they were all gone and my husband wanted to go out and I would not let him go—and he struck me—and I screamed out—at which time there was a knock at the door—I opened the door three officers came in—I saw they were determined to take my husband—and I asked him to give me what money he had and the watch—he refused to give me either of them—he saw he was compelled to go and gave them to me—(on that watch he was convicted) two pistols and a bowie knife were in my box when I left the house, they belonged to my brother. My brothers name is Peter Smith. I have tried several

[August 27, 1851]

times to recover the pistols and knife but have been unable to do so—I did not return to my house that night as they kept me in the Station house all night—and I sent for O'Conner who had me bailed out the next day. My husband remained in the Station House—Jim Smith is a stout man tall about 5 feet 11 or 6 feet Light complexion, brown hair, dark eyes—

August 27 Mrs Yates states that she never saw this man before

Daniel Burdick— I am a native of Rhode Island, Engineer on Board of Steam Boat I know nothing of Hughes, alias Swan—Turner or any of the Gang charged with stealing

Jane Yates, I am a Native of Dundee Scotland I left Scotland in 1845 the Port of Glasgow in the Ship *Emma*. Capt [. . .] for Sydney [correction interlined] for Hobart Town Van Dieman' Land we my Husband & myself remained in Sydney one month, we left Sydney about sixteen months [ago] by the *Sacramento* for San Francisco have been here about thirteen months

We were three and a half years in Hobart Town Van Dieman' Land I had two shops, Cabinet Makers Shops Neither my Husband nor myself were transported, never knew that Van Dieman' land was a Penal Colony, after we arrived in San Francisco, we lived at the North end of Stockton Street, there I took in Boarders Washing, Sewing &c— The following persons boarded with me in that House—Graham a Cabinet Maker, James Smith my Brother Adams (now in Prison) I moved from this Place to Virginia Street it was in the month of May

I lived there one month after the fire of June I went to the upper end of Stockton Street towards the North Beach where I now live, I take in washing no men frequent my House at all

McIntyre told Mrs Thomas who keeps the El Dorado that Adams lived with me my Husband is in Jail now for stealing a watch, I know Thomas Tanner, he is a married man, he left about four months ago, I do not know where they now are, the watch was claimed by a Frenchman, I saw him [in] Court at the time of the trial of my Husband, The man Tanner, Tur-

[August 27, 1851]

ner's proper name is Thomas Quick, there was a man called Swan, whose name is William Hughes gave my Husband the watch, when Hughes was in Prison my Husband used to take food to him so did I—when Hughes came out he made my Husband a present of the watch—Parbut was Counsel for Hughes, Hughes gave the watch to my Husband in our House in presence of George Patterson who keeps a Store at the North Beach, I think he is an Irishman, Patterson came very often to our House, Thomas Quick's wife came from Hobart Town before the May Fire she was in my House a few hours only, when he came for her, he took his wife up the River she stopped at Burns after her arrival I knew Osman, Jack Edwards, I knew Sam Whittaker, I knew T. B. Kay when my Husband was taken up I went to T. B. Kay House to look for Hughes, Kay & Hughes—I knew Teddy McCormick I knew McCormick & Whittaker at the Port Phillip House, I knew Whittaker when he stayed with Mr^s Ryan at the Rose Cottage, because I used to go there for Porter

Jimmy from Town robbed me of \$800 in Gold dust, One Gold Watch 1 Silver Watch, seven gold rings, one Gold Locket Mr Patterson was in my House at the time Jemmy from Town robbed me Mr Patterson, knocked the door open at the time Jenny from Town was robbing me, I screamed, Jemmy from Town hit Patterson and gave him a Black Eye—with Jemmy from Town there was a small chap he wore a red shirt has a cock eye is called cockeye, the other was a stout full faced fellow, *called fatty*. I never got the things back, this took place Gambles, Gamble is gone Patterson says that Gamble is in Town, I have heard that Gamble Stole and also heard that he was connected with a parcel of Thieves Carr the Constable told me & my Husband at different times about Adams Hughes, Whittaker & McCormick, said they were Thieves, Adams and Hughes lodged at my House— T. B. Kay was twice at my House in Virginia Street he came there to look for Hughes alias Swan—he always paid me his board \$12 per week, he was at my House about four months altogether, I washed for himself also—I do not know what he done for a living he said he was

[August 27, 1851]

a Tailor, I do not know when he went to Bed or when he got up he did not follow Tailoring in my House he said he had plenty of money to keep him while he was here, sometimes he would be gone for two days sometimes for a Week—I never saw anyone call to see Hughes or Swan during the whole four months—he boarded at my House in Stockton Street up to the Fire of May—McCormick has been at my House in Stockton Street he came to see Swan or Hughes—

I have seen Whittaker with Hughes or Swan, Jack Edwards, McCormick & T. B. Kay, I have seen these men together frequently at the Port Phillip I have seen Dick Osman and his wife in this City within three weeks—There is one by the name of Sam out at the Mission he was also one of them, he is a tall man light hair, light complexion rather Slender, he is living with a Mexican Woman—he has been seen several times there, I do not [know] where Hughes has gone to, shortly after the time my Husband was arrested I have been looking out for Hughes or Swan, also Sam for I believe they were the ones who committed this Robbery

I lost this Jewellery before the June Fire I saved this \$800 I saved from my Brothers Money and the money paid by Hughes the rings I brought from Hobart Town the Gold Watch I brought from Home with me, the Locket I bought in Clay Street,

Mr Thompson gave me the Chain for the Locket before he went home, Thompson is from Hobart town—he has gone home

Mr Robart confronted with Mrs Yates Mr R. says he saw her in Court, Mrs Yates does not recollect Mr R—

Gamble is a fair haired man tender Eyes, he used to have all these Thieves about his place, stolen property was taken to his place, I heard that he was in Prison, but that he got out

Questions to be put to Turner

1. What connexion have you with a certain Sweeney at Martinez, which is the actual trade of said Sweeney?

2. Did Sweeney follow a business in San Francisco, and which was his business?

[August 27, 1851]

3. Have you family connexions with Mrs Sweeney, for which reason did you wish to speak to her at the time of your arrest at Martinez?

4. Who was the person that left your house at 4 or 5 o'clock on the morning you were arrested?

5. Was the person who left your house not a so called sailor, what is his age?

6. Did he not wear a red shirt?

7. Give us the names of the persons who were, two days before your arrest took place, busy all night in moving goods from your house

8. Why was Mrs Turner surprised of your arrest?

Mrs Hall fears to appear before the Committee and she does not live any more at Mr Austins.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Statement of Mrs. Turner]

Aug. 28, 1851.

Mrs Turner, Wife of Joseph Turner, now in custody. I have been married 10 months. I have been acquainted with Turner 2 years he came in the same ship with me.— I never heard he was transported.—I knew him as a Surveyor.— He has been a waiter in Sacramento House—He was 1 month in a Restaurant (Miners) Long wharf He got a sore hand there—we staid at mothers a month or 2. afterwards at Underwoods. I dont remember being in a Jewellers store except a little while before my marriage—I was in a Jeweller's store, I dont remember if in Dupont St where my husband sold a gold watch. Turner has been washing and Ironing—digging a well & working at blacksmithing for Mr Swayne at Martinez.— He knows Mr Buckler.— I dont know Swan or Hewes or Osman.— I knew

[August 28, 1851]

Whittaker where I was born, at Maitland.— Whittaker was grown there.— He wanted to marry me & threatened Turners life.— My husband saw him at Mrs Ryan—but my husband never lived with *that* Mrs Ryan—He did live with Mrs Ryans near Stockton St towards the Hospital—we still wash and iron at Martinez: Mrs Hawkins had a watch stolen there & had the men up for stealing it. I never was accused of it.—There are in my house 2 or 3 files a pair of nips & several other tools he works with. There are no cellars trap doors &c at my house—There is 1 pistol in the house a single barrellled one. I know McAuley. He never said to me that my husband gave him a wink so that he should not recognize him. McAuley keeps the Dan O'Connel house—I arrived here the day before the fire about a year ago. About 7 mos. after I arr^d I was married. I was in bed with my mother the night of that fire. My little brother was in bed with Turner. . . . There were 7 of us at that time.— Turner & my brother were in one bed & the rest of us in another. Turner is worth about \$150., to \$200. I suppose.—The man that gave him those tools was Geo Lyons. He has gone to the States. I picked one up at Tells house, a screw driver, box wood handle, one pair of nippers are lost. My husband went from Aylesbury Eng. to the Colonies.— My husband has been living with Fred. the German, 7 years. He was selling jewelry that was said to be stolen for a Jew he lived in happy [Valley?].— he was about a fortnight in selling it. Watches guards & all kinds of jewelry. It was here.— He was lodging in Pacific St with a Jew & Jewess with 2 children just above the Calabosse. I think his name was Lewison.— This was about 4½ months since. I have been at Martinez about 11 weeks.

Edward L Williams. San Francisco Aug 28. 1851

To the Executive Committee—

Gentlemen—This morning about half after Ten there drove past me in Jackson St a Barouche or Carriage drawn by a span of Bay Horses— The body of the Barouche is of a dark green— on the box seated with the driver there was one of the confederates of "Osman" and his gang—

[August 28, 1851]

This man is very stout built, face of a florid color and the writer thinks has lost a front tooth from his dress and appearance might be taken for an English Coachman— At the time of "Osmans" trial in Monterey he went by the name of "Jackson" he kept there a low eating and drinking shop and was also a Butcher— "Parbut" Osmans lawyer tried to prove an alibi for Osman and introduced Jackson to testify that O and the others were in his shop drinking at the supposed time of the Custom House robbery—this failed—Jackson was then introduced to prove the good character of Osman which he testified to in about the same words as "Whittaker" and "Carlye" (alias Stuart) the three being all used for the same purpose by "Parbut"—attorney for prisoners—

Upon the cross-examination conducted by the Prosecuting Attorney (Col. Weller) there was elicited from "Jackson" that he went to Van Diemens Land in a Govt. Vessel, that he paid nothing for his passage, that there was some two or three hundred passengers besides himself—

The Court would not allow Col. Weller to ask a Witness whether he had been a Convict or not or if the question was asked no Witness answered it, on the plea of self crimination—

However, there was enough shown to convict every hearer that Jackson had been a Convict and to impress every one with the belief that "Jackson" *was a confederate of the gang*—

Immediately after the trial Jackson sold out and left Monterey and your writer has not seen him since until this morning—

Should the Executive think fit to arrest this man or give him intimation that he must leave this Country then, the writer will do all in his power to aid in the search for him and he does not apprehend much difficulty in effecting his object—

All of which is respectfully submitted by No. 650—

[Signed] Edw. L. Williams

San Francisco Aug. 28. 1851

[Police Order]

Chief of Police

You are directed to accompany Mr Williams, who will point

[August 28, 1851]

out one Jackson, whom you will arrest and bring before the Committee of Vigilance and herein fail not

Done by order of Executive

August 28th 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem

[Annotated:] In the rooms

D J T [Thomas] Jr

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Resignation of the Sergeant at Arms*]

San Francisco August 29. 1851

To the Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance

Gent. You will please accept this my resignation as Sergeant at Arms of the Committee of Vigilance. Thanking the Committee through you for the honor conferred upon me¹

I have the honor to be Gentlemen

Respectfully Your obt Servant

[Signed] A. J Mc Duffee

Executive Chamber

August 30th 1851

The Executive report herewith the resignation of A. J. Mc Duffee the Sergeant at Arms, and desire that D. L. Oakley be appointed to fill said vacancy,

The Executive particularly recommend Mr Oakley having at all times proved himself worthy of trust and confidence

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem

[Annotated:] Adopted

¹ See p. 418.

[August 29, 1851]

[Communication from J. P. Muldoon]

San Francisco Aug 29th 51

To the Chairman of the Executive Committee

Sir I have been refused admittance to the Committee rooms. for what I do not know. unless it was because I was intoxicated on one or two occasions. I wish to be admitted again. and I think you will not have the same complaint of me again. I would have made application before but waiting an action of the Committee as I supposed they would expel or admit me

I am yours &c

John P Muldoon 317

Executive Committee Report in the Matter of No 317 that they consider the apology of John P. Muldoon good and sufficient, and earnestly recommend that No 317 be restored to the Association²

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem.

[Annotated:] Ordered that he be re admitted—
reconsidered—
referred to Qal [Qualification] Com

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

In the Matter of Capt Harding [Canning]

Executive Chamber

August 30th 1851

In the Case of Capt Canning of the Brig *Hallowell*, charged with murder Your Committee report That they have had Capt Canning in Custody and examined all the Witnesses for and against him, but finding no ground for his detention your Committee discharged him¹

² See note 2, p. 165.

¹ The *S. F. Herald*, August 26, 27, reported that the Committee delivered Captain Canning to the recorder for trial, and that he was discharged after examination.

[August 30, 1851]

All of which they respectfully present for confirmation

[Signed] S Payran

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Presdt of Ex Com

Sec. pro-tem

[Annotated:] Adopted

Charles Gesenius, I am Super cargo of the Brig *Hallowell* about 12 O'clock at night of Saturday the 23^d inst, I saw a Boat coming toward the Brig, I apprized the Capt of it, suspecting the man was after no good, the man came up the side, Capt asked what he wanted, and ordered him down, not going down the Capt struck him on the shoulder with a Pump handle, when he descended I think he slipped and fell in the water, all means were used to save him, but the current being strong it swept him away—the Capt took a Boat and tried to save him, and we were obliged to send the Ship's Boat to save the Capt

[Signed] Charles F. Gesenius

Charles Stedman, states that he did not see the man nor was he present at the time when the man offered to come on board, but being told that a man was overboard, I used all means to save him

[Signed] Cha^s Stedman

[*Report relating to Convicts*]

Executive Chamber

August 30th 1851

Committee Report That in the case of

William Alderson a convict

James Roach—a Convict

William Clay } These two are implicated by Sanphy
Patrick Sweeney } with being connected with Mr^s Con-
nolly in taking a large amount of money from Sanphy,
the character of these men do not stand fair—

William Clay implicated by Whittaker.² In this case
we have examine the man and find that the report is
true therefore the Committee have settled up his busi-
ness

² See p. 481.

[August 30, 1851]

William Barclay Convicts from Sydney

Richard Garland do do do

The Committee have ordered that these men be banished from the Country by first vessel three of them have means—one of them 4£ three of them nothing, all of which is respectfully presented to your body for confirmation

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem

[Order relating to Convicts]

Ordered by Committee that W^m Alderson James Roach W^m Wilson W^m Clay W^m Barclay Pat Sweeney Richard Garland be sent out of the Country at once.

Bark *Petrel*,³ Capt Burne for Sidney agents McKenzie Thompson & Co or W J Balley & Co will take the passengers at \$50 each will sail on Monday 8th Sept—

Your Committee respectfully suggest the propriety of appointing a Committee to ship the Prisoners now in Custody

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman,

Sec. pro-tem

Cartwright Tuffs & Bohrer Com of 3 to ship prisoners

[Report on various Prisoners]

Executive Chamber

August 30th 1851

Your Committee Report That they have in Custody and under examination the following Prisoners to wit

David Earl Implicated by Stuart & Whittaker

Robert Ogden & wife Implicated by Whittaker

³ The bark *Petrel*, Captain Blackburn, cleared for Sydney September 9 (*S. F. Herald*, September 10), but voucher No. 43, p. 782, shows that the prisoners of the Committee were deported on the brig *Zone*.

[August 30, 1851]

Turner & wife—Turner was charged with murder of
Brewer supposed to [be] guilty of Robbery
Jane Connolly—of Jenkin Notoriety also Saphy her Husband

On which cases they trust to be able to report on next night
of meeting

[Signed] S Payran
Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman
Sec. pro-tem

In the Matter of Robert Ogden implicated by Whittaker—

Daniel L. Crouch, I know the Prisoner he is Robert Ogden,
about a year ago, he kept a Grog Shop on Broadway called Live
and Let Live, I believe him to be the man implicated by Whit-
taker. I know nothing more of him Ogden says that his place
of business is in Marysville— (Boards at Mrs Watts Mission
Street)

[Signed] Danl L Crouch

Robert Ogden, I was born in Manchester England I am
about forty five years old, I left England 24th Augt 1841 in the
Ship *Carthaginian* Capt Robinson, I left the port of Liver-
pool for Sydney, I was assigned to Cosslin & Brown, Sydney, I
arrived at San Francisco in January 1850, I had one single
Penny when I arrived Myself & wife commenced washing—
after washing for four months, I built a *Big House* corner of
Broadway & Montgomery cost me \$1174, I called the House
the Daniel O'Connell, I paid for it, I let that to Mr O'Meara,
after giving up washing I kept the place called the *Live & Let
Live* in Broadway and Montgomery I kept it until 15th last
March, I took \$690—I got \$125 for the Daniel O'Connell

Mrs Ogden

I knew Teddy McCormick, he was brought to my House from
on Board ship when he first came, he was brought by a woman
named Beckett—the man about whom my Husband was jealous
is Thomas Smith lives behind Crockstein & Ward on Broadway

[August 30, 1851]

[List of Passengers on the *Mary Catherine*]

Executive Committee

August 30th 1851

Committee Report That the subjoined list of Passengers who have left by the *Mary Catherine*, was politely furnished by Bally & Co—among the list there are many persons who were implicated by Prisoners in our charge,* some of whom your Committee have been in quest of

Your Committee thought it prudent to let them depart

[Signed] S Payran

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Presdt of Ex Com

Sec. pro-tem

List of passengers—sailed on board "*Mary Catherine*" Captain Fox for Sydney—August 29, 1851

James McCay	Dr Welsh and wife
J. N. Harriss	Joseph Smith & wife X
Thomas Brooks X	James Barton & family
Thomas Summers X	Mr Hagerty
John Sullivan X	Mr Holden X
—— Connell X	Mr O'Neal
Martin, wife and 3 children.	P. Mc Courey
D Robinson.	Cornelius Moran & family
Patrick Butler	James Mullear
William Shaw	Jno. Poynter and wife X
John Sinclair X	Robt Mc Roberts
Mrs & Mr Parsons	Geo. Harrex
—— Barnes X	Thomas Weeks
J. A. M. Antony	James Gammell
Luke Ryan X	Peter Heffern
Broderick and Son	Richard Handers
—— Steel	F. Hescham
W. Lellian	Pat. Doyle & family
—— Landgrine	T. W. Andrews
George Frith	H. Hitchcock
Mrs Miller	Nicholas Mc Neal

* Most of the names checked in the above list have appeared several times in the records of the Committee.

[August 30, 1851]

Joseph Plunkett X	Geo. Walker X
Charles Leary	W. Macgregor
Michael Mc Meekan	Brian Dooley
A. Campbell	Jno. Harrison
Charles Brooks & wife X	Mrs Scott & 2 Children X
P. Mac Lynch	Pat. Halliman
Barnard Gollar	Ja ^s . Landrigan
Jessie Hack	Britton Jones X
	T. Davies
	Rich ^d . Mahon & wife—

[Addressed:] With W. J Balley & Co's Compliments—
To The Executive Committee—
Pacific wharf Aug 29. 1851

[Report on the Resignations of Spence and Mellus]

Executive Committee

August 30th 1851

Committee report The resignation of John F Spence
Geo: Mellus, two members of the Executive which they hope may
be accepted

And would present the names of Capt Cartwright &
Nathaniel Miller (N. Miller) to fill the vacancies

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec pro-tem

[Annotated:] Adopted—

[Request for Leave of Absence]

Executive Committee

August 30th 1851

Lloyd Minturn and Charles S. Woods Members of the
Committee of Vigilance desire leave of absence for two months
and remission of Dues and fines for that period

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem

[Annotated:] Adopted

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of General Meeting Aug 31. 1851

Col Jas B Huie in the Chair

Minutes of previous meeting read & ap

Report of Ex Com in the Case of Harding & Ollinger arrested on the charge of murder—Ex Com report that they have examined all the witnesses in the case and find no grounds for the detention of the Prisoners Therefore discharged them—

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS.

[Case of Harding and Ollingen]

Executive Chamber

August 30th 1851

In the Matter of Harding & Ollingen arrested on suspicion of murder Your Committee report that they have examined all the witnesses in the case, and find no grounds for the detention of the Prisoners,

Therefore discharged them

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem

William Cummings, I know the Prisoner William Harding, about one Year ago I was in the Eagle Saloon, about 9 OClock at night I left the Saloon to go home, I was struck with a Slung Shot by some person, which caused me to fall into a hole I was pulled out by some person, afterwards I was told by the Bar-keeper of the Eagle, that the person who struck me was in Jail, I went up to the Jail and recognized this man Harding,

Next time I saw Harding was at Clarks point he was pointed out to me as a very bad man, a few days after Harding had difficulty with a man by the name of Wooley Kearney, and they went over to the Island and fought for some amount of money, since then Kearney has told me, that Harding had

[August 31, 1851]

stopped at his House spent money pretty freely, and would afterwards would go to his Kearney's drawer and take money

[Signed] W^m Cummings

Mr Parrant states that he saw the two men arrested and assisted to bring them in, knows nothing about the men, a man who keeps a small drinking shop on the Mission road, near the Bridge on the Plank road, he said that he had suspicions that Harding had killed the man whom we had found dead near the Mission

[Signed] Charles L Parent

“ Richard Harries

[Annotated:] Harding & Olligen discharged By order of Committee

Foster E. Tarbett: *Prisoner brought in*, Witness says that he (Harding) is the man that called at my House on the Mission Road near the Bridge, he called at my House on Monday the 18th August, he came in and took something to drink with another man, whom Harding called Kearney (*Prisoner admits that he was with Wooley Kearney at House of Tarbett*) Witness states that Ollingen a Prisoner presented to him called next day at his House 19th August, they came together drank

I saw nothing out of the way they seemed to be intoxicated, I know nothing further—except that a Coat which you have in charge was found near the Body of Thomas Wheeler,

[Signed] Foster B Tarbet

William Carey Jones, I knew Thomas Wheeler whose body was found supposed to have been murdered, I know nothing of how he came by his death except by information, I do not suspect any Person of the murder in particular (*Harding & Ollingen brought in*) I do not think I ever saw them before

Coat shown, I do not think the Coat ever belonged to Wheeler, Mr Wheeler came out with my Brother in Law Mr Fremont

[Signed] W^m Carey Jones

(Signed) W. L. Harrison

stopped at his house spent money freely and would afterwards would go to his house and take money.

Mr. Harrison states that he saw the two men mentioned in the report to bring them in money and to take the money from them who keep a small building about the corner of the street and the bridge on the bank and he saw that he had a small building. Harrison had taken the men there and had them there.

(Signed) Charles F. Harrison
(Signed) Harrison
[Associated] Harrison & Harrison
Committee

Foster E. Tappan: Witness brought in Harrison who that he (Harrison) is the man that called at my house in the Mission Road near the bridge he called a man there and Harrison the 15th August he came in and took money from me and gave another man whom Harrison called Harrison who was a man that he was with Henry Harrison at House of 15th August. He new states that Harrison a witness brought in Harrison who was day at his house. 10th August they were together. I saw nothing out of the way. They seemed to be in a room. I know nothing further—except that a man told me that a change was being made the day of 15th August.

(Signed) Foster E. Tappan
William Carey Jones: I saw Harrison who was found supposed to have been murdered. I know nothing of how he came by his death except by information I got from the best my friend of the murder in particular. I think it was a very good brought in I do not think I ever saw them before. God knows. I do not think the God ever helped me. Wheeler, Mr. Wheeler came out with my brother in law Mr. Fremont.

(Signed) W. Carey Jones

[August 31, 1851]

August 23^d 1851.

Samuel Brannan Esq examined, States that he arrested the two Prisoners William L. Harding and John Olligin,

On the Evening of the 19th when coming into Town in my Buggy two men passed me on Horseback and on a Gallop, one of them tumbled from his Horse (John Olligin) and I halloo'd to the other to come back and held his friend on to his Horse, he came back cursed him and damned him & told him to get on his Horse and come along, from his treatment I supposed he had some design upon his companion, (Olligin) got on his Horse and rode on, after thinking of the matter I concluded to stop them and ask them some questions, I drove up alongside and told them to stop, they turned their Horses went into the Brush and put off on a run, I jumped from my Buggy and pursued them, threatened to shoot them if they did not stop, they continued their run, and made their escape, I then got in to my Buggy put my Horse on a run till I reached Home, which is Mission and Third Street on Plank Road, I then ordered my Horse to be saddled to go in pursuit, also stationed my servants to keep a look out and inform me when ever any one should pass on Horseback, a few minutes after the man Harding came along on a walk past the House Notice was given me, I went out and arrested him, I asked him for the man who had been in his company, he said that he had left him at the Ranché, I asked what Ranché, he said he did not know, I asked him for the name of the man, he said his name was John Carson I asked how long he had known him, he said he had known him eight months, afterwards said he had known him two years ago in the City of New York, I asked Harding how long he himself had been in California he answered three years, I asked him how long he had been in Town he said he arrived on the 17th from Sacramento, I then told him to mount his Horse and go along with me to find the man who had been riding with him, he seemed to be alarmed and not inclined to go and pretended to be very Drunk, when C. L. Parrant and Richard Harris came up (who had found a dead body between my House & the Mission a few hours previous) and stated that that was the man who had murdered the man whom they had found having

[August 31, 1851]

been pointed out to them, as he rode by at the time of finding the Body—I then insisted upon his mounting the Horse and going with me, at which time John Olligin came in sight riding on a walk, I also arrested him, and asked him what his name was, he said his name was John Olligen, I asked him the name of Harding—he said he did not know his name, and never had seen him before in his life, I asked them where they had got the Horses, the said they had got the Horses at Clarks point. I insisted upon them mounting their Horses which they did and I brought them into Town in coming up Kearney Street and when opposite Mallett's Stable, Olligen's Horse turned into Mallett's Stable, and I learned from that, that the Horses belonged to Mallett—Hostler stated that Harding had hired Horses for three days previous, that on the 19th Harding took the two Horses, and had another man in company not Ollingen, I wished then to take the Prisoners into the middle of the stable to the Lamp to see their faces, Mr Mallett stepped up and said I should not do it I asked him why—his objection seemed to be founded on some objection to the men, I asked Mallett his name, he told me, I then turned to the Prisoners and told them to go with me, they desired to know where I was going to take them, I told them to the Committee of Vigilence, Bill Cummings took charge of one, Geo: Howard of the other, and I on Horseback, on coming into the room I recognized the man Mallett in the room, Harding stated that he had been on board the Ship *Columbus*, and that the stripes on his back had been inflicted on him there

The man murdered was a Colored man, lived with Tenbrook at the Mission and had been murdered about two weeks previous to the 19th

Harding stated that he slept at [...]

[Police Order]

There is a House situated on the West Side of Dupont Street first House South of Jackson Street, kept by [...] Pat Sweeney had some Boxes there

Marshal Thomas

You are hereby deputed for this special duty and to take

[August 31, 1851]

in charge all Boxes Trunks &c belonging to Pat Sweeney or Mrs Connolly and bring them and the party into the Custody of the Committee of Vigilance

Done by order of Executive

Aug 31 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

[Endorsed:] Searched the house & found only one box that S identified—that is in the room—

Ascertained that Mrs C's husband died *very suddenly* of *apoplexy* & that Saphy *left the house the next day* & afterward married the widow within the next 90 days—Mrs C was bar-keeper for Burns— Wright was in my custody for a short time but I had no charge against him—was told that a blacksmith who lives on the opposite side of the street is a *chum* of Sweeny's but the persons keeping Holmes' hotel think he is an innocent man

[Signed] D J Thomas Jr

Marshal & Acting C of P

[Order for the Arrest of Thomas Smith]

Chief of Police

You will depute a guard to proceed and bring before the Committee one Thomas Smith and bring with you any watch or watches you may find, you can take Robert Ogden with you and bring him back

Done by Executive

Aug 31 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

[Annotated:] The undersigned have searched for Thomas Smith with Rob^t Ogden who knows no more than the man in the moon where to find him—we are therefore obliged to return this order unsatisfied. Brought Rob^t Ogden back—

[Signed] J. S. Ellis

" Hawthorne Ellis

" Thomas Goin

[August 31, 1851]

[Communication from D. L. Oakley]

Committee Rooms San Francisco

Aug 31st 1851

To the Executive Committee.

Gentlemen. I hereby tender my resignation, as collector of fines & dues, and at the same time would suggest the names of J W Hartman No 201 or A J Cornell No 614. as gentlemen well calculated to fill the post, and willing to devote their time to its duties.

Allow me also to express my thanks, for the kindness exhibited towards me, in recommending my name, for the vacancy made by the resignation of A J McDuffie Esq, and shall endeavor to show my gratitude by fulfilling the duties of my office, to the extent of my ability.

Respectfully &c &c

[Signed] D. L. Oakley

[Annotated:] A J Cornell in place of Oakley

[Addressed:]

To the Executive Committee

Present

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

Order of Executive Committee to Sergeant at Arms.

Case Connolly

Sergeant at Arms

Is requested to send and bring from Corner of Sansome & Broadway, House of John Welsh, a Trunk or Box of Clothes & Bed & Bedding belonging to Mrs Sanphy or Connolly and bring them to Committee Room

Done by order of Executive

Sept 1st 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

[September 1, 1851]

[Annotated:] The above order has been performed by 594
[B. L. O. Gauvorean] at 12 o'clock Sept 3 1851

[Signed] Dan^l J Thomas Jr

Marshal

[Police Order]

A Man by the name of F. L. Walsingham charged with Forgery has made his escape from Sonora—

Walsingham is about 5 ft 6 or 7 in high, stout made, florid complexion red hair & whiskers (if not shaved) wears his whiskers round his chin he came into the City on the morning of 31st August by the Stockton Boat

Chief of Police is hereby directed to place his guards at such places as he may think best and detect and bring into our Custody the said Walsingham—giving also such facilities as Mr McFarland may desire who has the writ in his possession for the arrest, and make report to the Committee

Done by order of Executive

Attest

Sept 1st 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

[Annotated:] Left for San Jose to which place Mr McFarland Marshal of Sonora has followed him

[Signed] W O Smith

Chief of Police

[Addressed:]

To the Chief of Police

[Case of James Chase]

James Chase—Who stole from 3 to 4 oz Gold Dust from me at Parks Bar on the 28th August 1851 he is about 5 ft 8 in high stout made at the chest, Black Hair & whiskers dark complexion—very wide between the Eyes he has been traced to Marysville—he carried a full sized Colt's revolver, and a small one also a Mountain Rifle—he is about 40 years of age

[Signed] John C Chapman

Blown Gold—2nd of it is blackish—one piece weights 7½ one other 2½\$ in shape of an heart one piece wghs 1.9 oz it is very thin remarkably so owner resides at Parks Bar—

[September 1, 1851]

One of the fingers third one on the hand either right or left hand is turned in and cannot be straightened—

The above is the description of James Chase

Chief of Police Is directed to detail a guard as a lookout for Chase, and arrest and bring him before the Committee, it is expected that he is now or will be shortly in Town to escape by some Steamer or vessel.

Done by order of Executive

September 1st 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Committee

Return this Document when executed, with report endorsed

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Police Order]

Chief of Police

You are requested to take measures touching the subjoined Documents, so as to secure the arrest of Kelly named therein—

Also to arrest Spires and Swan who are said to be about the Mission Dolores

You will return the Documents with report endorsed thereon

Done by the Executive

September 2nd 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Capt W D Harrington Says Kelly is to be found at Michael Foley's, is not to be seen, except at night, other bad characters are sometimes there. Kelly ask Capt H—s man, to secrete him at Cap H—s House, but was refused, Foley lives at the mission,

Capt H—resides 3 miles west of Angelo's his house is on the Santa Cruz pass, know that many horse thieves & other bad men congregate near him, will supply horses and aid if required at any time,

[September 2, 1851]

Refers to

Capt Chadwick Store W. G Haut

Page, Bacon & Co

Grayson, Guild & Co

Clayton

Agnew Battery opposite V. C—rooms

[Addressed:]

[Signed] D L Oakley

To the Executive Committee

Present

[Police Order]

Executive Committee

San Francisco Sept 2nd 1851

Chief of Police

You are requested to detail a look out for Hines, Stanley and McDougal whose description is hereunto annexed it is supposed that the said Culprits are in the City or hourly expected, if found you will search them and bring whatever you find with the Prisoners into the custody of the Committee

Done by order of Executive

September 2nd 1851

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com:

You will be careful to return these Documents with your report endorsed thereon

San Francisco Sept 1st 51

On the 13th Aug A Robbery was committed on on the persons of Charles Thomson Hiram Stevens & Joseph Radcliffe of Winslow Bar North Yuba on the Downieville road about 3 miles from Dobbin's Ranch. Description of the Robbers

The first was a man about six feet tall Dark hair, black mustaches, Dark Brown or black beard, a florid complexion naturally dark had on a broad brimmed Manilla or straw hat His name I think is Hines [Annotated on margin] Hines

The second was about 5 feet 8 inches naturally light complexion but now bleached Had long light hair & light sandy whiskers, has a scar on the right cheek extending to near or just

[September 2, 1851]

below the corner of the mouth, His name is Stanley, Heard of him in Landan's Bar on Yuba had shaved his whiskers off & called himself *John Alcott* [?], has been twice drove from *Sac City* he is supposed now to be in this vicinity [Annotated on margin] Stanley

The third was a short thick set man full round face long reddish or sandy hair & light whiskers His name is supposed to be *McDougal* [Annotated on margin] *McDougal*

Amount of robbery about 5,000 dollars

Viz Thomson 2,300

Stevens 2,450

Radcliffe ,200

[Annotated:] Direct to Mr Bowen Dept^y Sheriff of Marysville

Committed 21, August

J Stewart. Sept 2, 1851. North Beach

North Beach San Francisco 2 Sept 1851

To The President of the Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance Present

Sir I have the honor to address you in regard to one whom you have now confined within your Rooms by name William Wilson¹ and to prove that I only meddle with what concerns me in this matter I have simply to state he is my wife's Cousin and that she in conjunction with myself feel very severely his being deprived for the first time in his life of his liberty,—even on suspicion.— I have therefore to request respectfully but firmly, that he be brought to trial for whatever he may be charged with, or if that should be deemed premature by your Committee that he be allowed to go at large upon bail which I am prepared to deposit in Cash in some safe Bank or I will hold myself prepared to find the responsibility of some [of] the most respectable men in Town even to members of your Committee who will gladly come forward in a case of common humanity like the present to guarantee that he will voluntarily come forward at any reasonable future period you, Sir, may deem proper to appoint.—

¹ This may have been the boatman implicated by Whittier (p. 481), and, perhaps the Wilson named on pp. 428 and 557. He was discharged (p. 596).

[September 2, 1851]

My only reason, Sir, in asking this much is, not that I fear any just trial that he may be brought to for any action of his life, but, that I do fear for his health, his very existence as I am persuaded from what I saw yesterday & knowing his delicate constitution and sensitive mind that something serious will happen either to his brain or bodily health thro the course you have seen fit to adopt with regard to him.—

I have the honor to be

Sir

with respect Your Ob^dt Serv^t.

[Signed] J. Stewart

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

C V Gillespie Sept 4. 1851

Dear Sir,

Mr Nugent will have a certified copy of the Govs Proclamation—pardoning Charles Duane, sent to him this evening—when he will forward the same to you immediately, The document is in the County Clerks office—and as the person in charge of such records was absent, I could not obtain the pardon myself,

I believe that this community will hold us responsible if we allow so great a rascal as Duane to go at large, I have already had it said to me, that if the Committee are consistent they will either confine Duane or send him out of the country,

You can depend on my aid tomorrow in any course you may see fit to adopt. I would like to be with you this evening but an important engagement prevents, in haste

Yr's Obedient S

[Signed] C. V. Gillespie

4th Sept 5½ p m

Mr Payran

¹ John Nugent, editor of the *S. F. Herald*, which printed the Governor's pardon of Duane in the issue of September 5.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Orders]

Executive Committee Sept 5, 1851

It is ordered that David Earl be directed to leave this state within ten days from this date, and that he pay his own passage.—

It is ordered that David Turner be directed to leave this state for the Colonies, by the Brig *Zone*, and that he pay his own passage

It is ordered that Charles Duane be arrested—and that the Chief of Police be directed to keep him in a good and secure place subject to the order of the Committee

In the case of Charles Duane, the matter of last evening was re-considered [in consequence of the notice not having been delivered as per the voluntary offer of Mr Bromley to serve such notice.¹]

The seat of Mr Brinley is declared vacant in consequence of his long continued absence, and Lieut Baynard [Maynard?²] is recommended to the General Committee to fill such vacancy.

[Report of the Collector]

San Francisco, Sept^r 5th 1851

Eugene Delessert Esq,

Dear Sir, I herewith hand you a list of the names of members of the Vigilance Committee who paid me their dues while I was officiating as Collector, by which you will perceive that I have received \$210.00 in cash & 15.00 in Bills, making \$225.00 from which amount deduct the Commission allowed me, 10%, and it leaves a balance of \$187.50. I hold your receipt for the sum of \$185.00, and now hand you the Bal. of \$2.50, which cancels all my business of the Collectorship.

¹ Crossed out.

² See Nomination, p. 597. The name Baynard does not appear on the rolls.

[September 5, 1851]

I should have handed you this before, but urgent business has prevented me

Very respectfully your obt servt

[Signed] A. G. Randall

[Police Order]

San Francisco Sept 5. 1851

To the Chief of Police

You are hereby ordered to detail a guard and arrest Chas Duane and bring him to our quarters or to such other good and sufficiently safe place that you may in your prudence think best

By order of the Ex Com

[Signed] G E. Schenck

President Pro Tem

[Annotated:] From all information obtained by Mr Boyd, who had the order for his arrest, he has left in the steamer *Pacific* this day.

[Signed] W. Oscar Smith

Chief Police

Sept 6. 1851

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of General Meeting Sept 6. 1851

Mr H Haight in the chair

Minutes of former meeting read & approved

On motion N Miller

Resolved That a publication be given in the public prints that a full meeting be called for tuesday evening next¹

On motion Mr Hampton

Resolved That a demand be made on the Gov of California for the names of the parties who petitioned for his ex clemency in the case of Chas Duane

¹ The following notice is copied from the *S. F. Herald*, September 9:
"A full attendance of the Members of the Committee of Vigilance is requested on Tuesday evening, Sept. 9 at 8 o'clock. San Francisco, Sept. 8, 1851."

[September 6, 1851]

On motion

Resolved That the Ex Com have power to act in the Case of Metcalf vs Argenti Atkinson & Als—to procure lawyers &c and that their act be endorsed by general Com

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Report of Executive Committee]

Executive Chamber

Sept 6th 1851

To the Gentlemen Composing the Committee of Vigilance for Sanfrancisco

The executive Committee of your body have laboured ardously to accomplish the business committed to their charge, in performing which, they have had, but a single eye to the safety and prosperity of their fellows.

It is with much sincere satisfaction, that they are enabled to say, that the reports, before you, embraces action in relation to every prisoner in their charge, and it now only remains for your sub Committee, to see the prisoners depart, and not keep them in duress.

We also feel heartfelt pleasure in communicating the fact, that many of the prisoners, not only are enabled to pay their own passages, but are willing to depart in perfect satisfaction with the acts of the Committee. Your Committee have rendered them every facility that humanity and prudence could dictate.

Amongst the cases before us were two of husband and wife, those two cases demanded our attention, your Committee have separated the parties for their own good, and by the separation may be the means of saving much anguish.

Our labours are now completed and so far peace, and security, have attended our efforts for the public good, we earnestly hope that the Blessing of Almighty God may rest upon us, may the cessation of our labours, be no cause on the part of the vicious, to renew their course of life to the injury of the people.

We trust that those in power at this time, and those who shall succeed them, by reason of the late election may so learn wisdom, that in the exercise of their representative duties, they may ease the weight from the shoulders of their constituents, and

[September 6, 1851]

thereby honour their common Country and preserve their institutions unsullied.

It will now become you, to adopt some action for the future, to so base the present institution, that it may silently be a terror to all evil doers, and a rewarder of all that do well, that it may be a guardian spirit of the land.

With feelings of high respect & esteem

Believe me your

Obt Servt & well wisher² [...]

No 1. Report in the Case of David Earl

Executive Chamber

Of the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco

Saturday September 6th 1851

In the Case of David Earl charged by Stuart, Whittaker and other with having conspired to rob, as well as being Accessory to the escape of Watkins

Your Committee report that they have held the Prisoner in custody and in irons for nearly six weeks and during that time have summoned many witnesses for and against the Prisoner, and find no grounds to warrant the giving up the Prisoner to the Authorities, nor sufficient to warrant the infliction of punishment by the hands of the Committee

They therefore discharged said David Earl under an injunction to leave the State of California within Ten days from the Fifth day of September, since which the said Earl has prayed respectfully that the Committee give him five days longer to settle his business, which was granted

The Committee ask for a Confirmation of their acts in this case

[Signed] S Payran
Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman,
Sec. pro-tem.

[Annotated:] Adopted

² This unsigned report is in the handwriting of D. L. Oakley.



Executive Chamber
Of the Committee of Vigilance
of San Francisco

Saturday September 15th 1857

In the case of David Earl
charged by Stuart, Whittaker and others with having con-
spired to rob, as well as being accessory to the escape of
traitors

Your Committee report that they have held
the Prisoner in custody, and in view of nearly six weeks
and during that time have summoned many witnesses for
and against the Prisoner and find no grounds to warrant the
giving up the Prisoner to the Authorities, nor sufficient to
warrant the infliction of punishment by the hands of the
Committee

They therefore discharged said David Earl under
an injunction to leave the State of California within Ten
days from the fifth day of September since which the
said Earl has stayed respectfully that the Committee give
him five days longer to settle his business, which was
granted

The Committee ask for a Confirmation of their
acts in this case

Attest

G. W. Ryckman,
Sec. pro tem.

Stephen Payran
Pres. Ex Com

Adopted

FACSIMILE OF A REPORT IN THE CASE OF DAVID EARL.
In the handwriting of Stephen Payran and stamped with the Seal of the Committee.

[September 6, 1851]

No 2. *Joseph Turner. report of Executive*

Executive Chamber

Of the Committee of Vigilence of San Francisco

Sept 6th 1851

In the matter of Joseph Turner the Committee have fully examined the case, and are of opinion that he is a bad Citizen, as well as a Convict, Turner was arrested under suspicion of being concerned in Mr Robart's Robbery, but up until this time no clue has arisen to fix the charge

Your Committee have ordered him and his wife to leave, all of which is now being carried out by the Special Committee appointed for that purpose

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest, G. W. Ryckman,

Sec. pro-tem

[Annotated] Adopted

No 3. *Martin Sanphy. Report*

Executive Chamber

of the Committee of Vigilence of San Francisco

September 6th 1851

In the Case of Martin Sanphy your Committee have examined his case fully and deliberately, and from the examination find that he had been intimate with *Jenkins* whom the Committee Hung—also Burns, and others whom this Committee banished, they further believe this man to be a bad citizen, in consequence of which they Committee have ordered that he leave the State, and they respectfully ask for Confirmation of their act

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem

[Annotated:] Adopted

[September 6, 1851]

No 4. Jane Connolly now Sanphy. Report

Executive Chamber
of the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco
Sept 6th 1851

In the case of Jane Connolly (now Sanphy)

Mrs Connolly came before this Committee Voluntarily, having understood that Martin Sanphy (her husband) had preferred charges against her &c

Your Committee have fully investigated the case and believe the whole matter to be a foul conspiracy on the part of Sanphy & others to destroy the reputation of said Jane as well as to become possessed of some property belonging to her by reason of his marriage

A renouncement has been taken from him as to any and all interests that said Sanphy might or could have in any real or Personal estate of said Jane possessed by or belonging to her previous to her marriage with him

We respectfully ask of your body that the said Jane be allowed to depart, and to remain so long as she may desire,

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem

[Annotated:] referred back to Ex Com

reconsidered

adopted

No 5. Robert Ogden. Report

Executive Chamber

Of the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco

September 6th 1851

In the matter of Robert Ogden;

Robert Ogden was implicated by Whittaker as being a Thief and Convict,

Your Committee have examined the matter and firmly be-

[September 6, 1851]

lieve that Whittaker was not far from right, and therefore have ordered the said Ogden to be banished from the State

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman,

Sec. Pro-tem

[Annotated:] adopted

No 6. Mary Wright. Report

Executive Chamber

San Francisco Sept 6th 1851

To the Vigilance Committee

Gentlemen Sometime since your body ordered Alexander Wright³ (a convict) who had just arrived to leave the Country. and held him in custody for some time, and then sent him away

Wright behaved himself well while in custody and stated that his wife and child he thought would come out in the next Ship, after we had banished him but a short time, his wife and child arrived, she has endeavored to earn something by labor, but her child has been a great drawback on her industry—she has regularly reported herself to the Committee, and seems to be an excellent woman

Owing to her destitution and deprivation of her husband, she prays that the Committee will send her back

The case of this poor Woman we respectfully present to your attention for action this Evening being really a case that demands an exercise of our most benevolent feelings

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem

[Annotated but crossed out: laid on table]

reconsidered

adopted

³ See p. 180.

[September 6, 1851]

No 7. William Wilson. Report

Executive Chamber
Of the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco
Saturday September 6th 1851

In the matter of William Wilson who was ordered to quit
the Country,

Your Committee reconsidered the previous action in the case,
at the instance of several respectable Citizens, on which recon-
sideration, they had sufficient proof that said Wilson was not a
Convict, and was a quiet inoffensive man,

On which ground the Committee discharged said Wilson

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem

[Annotated:] adopted

No 8. Howard, a Deserter. Report

Executive Chamber
Of the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco
September 6th 1851

Your Committee report, that the Guard brought in one
Howard who proved to be a Deserter from the service of the U.
S. Government

Notice has been given to the Q. M. who will take charge of
said Howard and pay to the Committee the sum of \$30 all of
which is respectfully submitted.⁴

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest, G. W. Ryckman,

Sec. pro. tem.

[Annotated:] adopted

⁴ See p. 637.

[September 6, 1851]

No 9. Charles Duane. report

Committee Room of the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco

Saturday September 6th 1851

1. O'clock & 30 M. P. M.

In the Case of Charles Duane

Your President of the Executive reports, that on the night of the 4th inst, your Executive Committee were informed of the enlargement of said Duane by an order of the Governor of the State bearing date 17th Augt—

The question of action arose the Modus Operandi discussed, Mr Schenk was appointed President of the Board and G. W. Ryckman Secretary,

I contended that by reason of the matter being one of those cases adopted by the Committee of the whole, it could not be brought before the Executive for final action and therefore opposed it, firmly believing that the Executive body being an examining body have no right, to adopt final and conclusive action further than to recommend to the General body⁵—

As an Executive Body your Committee had power to order arrest, and hold subject to your action, and nothing further

[Signed] Stephen Payran

[Annotated:] laid on the table

No 10. Recommendation of Executive Committee in relation to vacancy created by absence of C. H. Brindley

Executive Chamber

Of the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco

September 6th 1851

Whereas the seat in the Executive of your Committee of Charles H Brinley, has been vacant by his continued absence out of the State, and it being of great importance that our Executive Board should be filled by good and competent men

Your Committee respectfully offer the name of L Maynard Esquire to fill said vacancy

Attest,

[Signed] S Payran

[Annotated:] Adopted

Presdt of Ex Com

⁵ See minutes of August 26, p. 551, and orders of Executive Committee, p. 590, also p. 626.

[September 6, 1851]

[Report. Case of William Clay]

Your Committee on the affairs of W^m Clay report as follows

I have succeeded in collecting money to the amount of one hundred & fifty three Doll, but a bal^{ce} of say fifty is unavoidably lost. his licence two months to run, value say \$30

And two bad debts of ten Doll each \$20

The bal^{ce} one hundred and fifty-3 Doll I now hold.

The only expense attending the collection having been fare to & from the Mission while 153.00

endeavoring to collect \$10 02.00

bal^{ce} \$151.00

I have exchanged a portion of this in Sovereign's but it being very difficult to obtain them even at 5% premium I fear for further success.

No further expense will attend this, save the chge of his luggage to the whf & boating to the ship say \$5.00

\$146.00

Respectfully Submitted

[Signed] D. L. Oakley

Sanfrancisco Sept 6th 51

[Addressed:]

Committee of one

To the Executive Committee

Present

[Communication from E. G. Austin]

N^o 10 Wells Building

Sept 6th 1851.

Dear Sir.

The case of Metcalf Vs Argenti & yourself will probably be called for trial on Monday.

If it is your intention to make a defence, and you require my services I should be glad to be informed of the same during the day.

Yrs &c

Mr F A Atkinson

[Signed] E G Austin

[Addressed:]

Mr Atkinson

Battery Street

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Police Order]

Chief of Police

You are required to make examination of Hasson House, also of Mrs Speedon, for \$500 in \$50, some small coin to amount to 85 to \$95, if found bring them before the Committee and the parties also

By order of the Executive

Sept 7th 1851

[Signed] S Payran
Ex Committee

San Francisco Sept 7/51

We hereby authorize & Consent freely that the agents of the Vigilance Commt of this City shall search our House & the premises of the inmates—

[Signed] Tho^s Hasson

[Same writing] Ann Hasson

Witness J W Cartwright

[Evidence of Jane Yates]

Mrs Jane Yates I know Mrs Jane Connolly— She came to my house with Swan—and went away with him I should think Mrs Connolly lived in the Uncle Sam from one to two months—she attended bar at the Uncle Sam—and afterward kept bar for Mr Burnes on Clarks point Swan lived in the Uncle Sam at the time Mrs Connolly lived there Swan lived in my house about 2 months before I knew what his occupation was—he then left my house and went to the Uncle Sam to live

her
Jane X Yates
mark

San Francisco Sept 7. 1851

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

Copy [of a Letter to Governor McDougal. Case of Charles Duane]

Vigilance Committee

San Francisco Sept 8. 1851

To His Excellency

John McDougal Gov of Cal

Sir By a resolution passed this evening by the Vigilance Committee—I am authorized—respectfully to request of you a copy of the petition and signatures urging you to grant the reprieve of Charles Duane

Very Respectfully

Signed S E Woodworth

Pres^t Genl Com

San [Francisco]

Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

[Annotated:] Copy delivered to Mr R B Hampton

[Receipt]

Sept 8, 1851

Reed of Ex Comtee a bag containing

8 Slugs	\$50—	\$400—
Gold	\$26	26
unknown	33.75	33.75

 \$459.75

For [In the handwriting of D. L. Oakley.]

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of General Meeting September 9, 1851

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the Chair

Minutes of former meeting read & approved

[September 9, 1851]

On motion of Geo R Ward

Resolved—That an order be given by the General Committee to pay a Coach bill of 50.\$ to John Crow bringing Fanny Seymour to Committee Room¹— Carried—

It was moved by Capt J F Hutton

That a Committee of 5 be appointed to select the names of 25 Gentlemen to be submitted to the Committee for election as an Executive Committee to hold their office for a period of six months and to make such suggestions or propositions as may be of interest to the Association The following Gent were appointed Capt J F Hutton—Mr Delasaret—Mr S Dewey Charles L Case Dr Geary [Gerry]—F Argenti²

On motion Mr F Woodworth

Resolved That a Committee of three be appointed to wait upon Governor McDougal and obtain from him the petition for the release of Chas Duane together with all the names attached

The following Gent are the Com Mr Hampton Mr Cronin Dr Davis

On motion Mr F Woodworth

Resolved That the Secretary request from the Governor of the State the names of the persons who signed a petition for the release of Charles Duane

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Resolution]

For the purpose of keeping up our organization and that this Committee shall continue to be a terror to the evil minded, *It is hereby Resolved*, That the Executive Committee shall still continue to hold their regular meetings for the transaction of all business that may come before them, and that they shall once a month or oftener if in their judgment they think necessary call a meeting of the general Committee for the purpose of laying

¹ See voucher No. 42, p. 781.

² Reorganization had been suggested as early as August 12 (p. 453), but it was not effected until September 17.

[September 9, 1851]

before them their report of all transactions of which they may have taken cognizance and for the further transacting of any business necessary for the good of the Committee—And it is *further resolved* that for the purpose of reducing our expenses the Executive Committee have power to provide for themselves such a room as they think proper for their place of meeting and where all communications may at once reach them—and that the last part of this resolution to be attended to as soon as the prisoners now in custody shall be disposed of—

[Annotated:] laid on table Sept 9, 1851

No 1 [Report on Jail Fund]

September 9th 1851

Executive Chamber

Of the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco

Some time since a certain amount of money was raised by Subscription under the auspices of the Committee, as a Jail fund, and by them placed in the hands of the Treasurer for future disposal and action

And whereas your Executive have had before their body Sheriff Hays for the purpose of investigating the affairs of the said Prison, which investigation has resulted favorably to the views and objects entertained by us at the time said Subscription was raised to wit

Sheriff Hays states that he has received an order to raise from the Taxes now assessed sufficient money to pay off a Mortgage due to Mr Argenti, that said Mortgage is the only incumbrance on said Prison except a Lien for Work, Labor and Materials which is held by Sheriff Hays, he further stated that in addition to said Lien he has become indebted in another sum of from three to four thousand dollars for Iron Doors & Locks to render the Prison secure, that said Doors Locks &c were made, and the debt incurred at the instance of the Committee of Vigilance, the Sheriff is unable in himself to meet the payment of the debts so incurred for want of funds

He further represents that by an arrangement made with the County, whereby funds will be raised out of the County's rates or levies the Prison will be entirely completed without a further

[September 9, 1851]

appeal to the People for private subscription and without creating a debt on the Prison

The Prisoners are now employed in various occupations, quarrying stone, Smith Work, tending on Masons &c &c, whereby much will be saved to the County

Your Committee report, that the objects for which the fund was raised having been anticipated, they see no reason why the appropriation should not be made and respectfully suggest that an order issue from the Finance Committee or Committee of the Jail Fund in favor of said Sheriff for said Fund, and to therewith liquidate the debts which he has assumed to pay

Your Committee further report that their Confidence in said Sheriff remains firm and unshaken, and do verily believe that he will honestly apply the fund for the purposes intended and agreeably to the will of this Committee, and further, that a vote of thanks should be awarded to Sheriff Hays for his perseverance in bringing this matter to so happy an Issue

All of which we respectfully submit to your body for action and confirmation

By order of the Executive

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

[Annotated:] adopted by Genl Com

I B Jr

No 2 [Report on Thomas Speeding]

Sept 9th 1851

Executive Chamber

San Francisco

Your Committee report that they have one Thomas Speeding in custody charged by James Davis with having robbed him of upwards of \$500 at a House called the Traveller's Home

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Thomas J L Smiley

Sec pro tem

[Annotated:] Prisoner discharged

[September 9, 1851]

James Davis *sw[orn]* I am a native of Montgomery County Virginia am twenty seven[?] years of age I came into California on the 8th of August A D 1850 have resided at Nevada I came to San Francisco on the 5th of September inst. and put up at Hasson's on first Street, this morning the 7th I saw an old man called Harper, it was raining while I was there, I saw some thirty or forty dollars passing between Harper & the Landlady (Hasson's wife) I also saw Speedson there, I told the Landlord that if I could see a family that would go up into the Country & keep a Boarding House & Grocery they would do well—

I went upstairs to turn in, and just as I was about to turn in Speedson came up and said Davis you had better give your money to the Landlord to keep or I would be robbed I said it is all safe I have my money in my Pantaloon pocket—I went to sleep and slept about one hour or so, when I awoke I found that I had been robbed—

Amount last 10. 50\$ pieces

Small coin—85 or 90

William Harper, born in the North of Ireland—aged about 24 from Sydney arrived here in American Brig *Cameo*.—Left Liverpool 23^d October, 1840 ship *Margaret*—Emigrant ship, Capt Blythe.—Laboured in Sydney as a blacksmith—arrived first time 2^d January 1850—Remained here till Nov. 1850.— While here worked for Turner, Fish & Co. about a fortnight, and then off and on at different times—T. Fish & Co lived at the foot of Pacific st or Washington st.— Also worked for several others, amongst others Starkey, Jimmey & Co—worked here from two to three months—then left for the Mines—remained there till Nov. last—then returned here and shipped same day for Sydney. Remained at Sydney about three weeks and then returned to S. F. in the Brig *Cameo*, Capt White—arrived here more than two months ago.— After I arrived I started for the Mines in three or four days—Arrived in S. F. one week yesterday. Made nothing but a living—paid my passage & had about enough to pay one weeks board.— No money about me now—nor has anyone got any money of mine.— First saw Mr Davis the man robbed

[September 9, 1851]

today, before dinner—about 11 o'clock in the 2^d story of the Travellers Home, Happy Home—was in my bed smoking a pipe—Davis came to my room to wake my father.— Davis did not sleep in the same room with my father.— First knew of Davis being robbed to-day at the time he came to wake my father— Davis then enquired of my father if he knew who had robbed him— I jumped out of bed and told my father to sit up. & give Davis a clear account of what Davis wanted to know my father said he knew nothing about the money.— I then went down stairs and called for the landlord.— The landlord's name is Thomas Hassen. My father knew that Davis had some gold pieces.— I saw Davis have three ten dollars pieces.— This was after Davis said he had been robbed—I have no trunk, nor valise or carpet bag—My father has no trunk. On Friday last worked on board a store ship and got five dollars—another day of last week worked and got \$7—A person came up and said “Davis you had better put your money in the hands of the landlord or landlady. Do not know what reply Davis made. I slept in the birth above my father—there is a petition between where I slept and where Davis went to bed.

William Harper— *reexamined*.— Have seen Speding at Sydney—Know nothing of his character—is a butcher.— Heard Speedings voice upstairs with Davis before they went to look for saddle bags—Heard him tell Davis he had better give his money in charge of the landlord or landlady.— Did not see Speding or hear him upstairs after they returned.— My father has not a good opinion of Speding.— I know nothing of him myself. Heard last week that Speding had sold a Sausage Machine for between 3 & 400 dollars.—

Thomas Hassen— Keeper of a public house called the Traveller's Home— Irishman by birth—from Sydney—arrived here early in May a few days after the great fire, in the *Emerald Isle*, Capt Watts.— Emigrated in 1837 with wife & six children came as a passenger to Sydney from Liverpool. Took the house I now keep immediately after my arrival. I know the man that was robbed at my house, now present—Davis. Came to my house this morning and took a drink, as I understood.—

[September 9, 1851]

First saw him myself at about ten this morning— Saw him have about three or four dollars in silver.— Heard my wife say she had seen the man robbed have ten or more \$50 pieces.— After Davis returned with the man named Speden, a butcher that kills for Mr Barry, corner of Mission st. Speden said to Davis "you had better give your money to the landlord for safe keeping." Davis replied my money is all right & I replied "I dont want to keep any man's money if he did not want me to do so."— Davis said he was going to stop at my place.— I know he went upstairs to go to bed.— Was upstairs about two hours—when he came down stairs he said he had been robbed of his purse that contained five hundred dollars.— Do not know of any man going upstairs while Davis was there excepting a man named Harper—an old man.— Young Harper was up stairs when Davis went to bed—had not been down stairs & was in bed.— Harper was in the next room to Davis went to bed in. Have known old Harper but two or three months—works in an engineer's shop is a blacksmith—Have known Young Harper about 8 days—believe him to be a steady man—works at odd jobs.—The \$50 pieces that my wife saw was previous to his going out for his saddle bags.— Davis had drank several glasses, but did not consider him drunk.— I am satisfied Davis was robbed.— My wife & Davis searched the rooms, but did not search . . .³ Speden is a decent man—have known him in the Colonies.— Have no reason to suspect any particular person to have committed the robbery.— No person could go up stairs without some of my family seeing them—and no person did go upstairs except old Harper—Speden, and young Harper that had not got up from his bed.—

[Signed] Tho^s Hasson

John Horigan— an Irishman—30 years of age—arrived here about 21½ years since from Sydney.— In Sydney about six years—left Cork in the *W^m Jerdine*—Emigrant ship.— Have known Speeding from 6 to 8 weeks—hired a house of me— Know nothing against his character—Never heard anything against him.— Knew he had a Sausage Machine & have heard

³ Illegible.

[September 9, 1851]

he sold it for \$300—not positive when he heard it had been sold—thinks he heard it on Sunday at about ten o'clock.— Saw him on board a vessel yesterday bound for Sydney—Told me on Sat- about 3 P M yesterday when I saw Speeding go on board the Sydney vessel. No person with him

[Signed] John Horigan

Thomas Speeding I saw Davis this morning and went to Pacific Wharf, and went back to the Travellers House, and have not seen him since—I left Davis at half past 2 O'clock—I went with Davis to Pacific Wharf at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9 or 10. OClock and returned at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2. OClock to Hasson—

Reexamination of Thomas Speeding Sept 8th 1851

Michael Coff— I was at Speeding House, I saw a Sausage Machine, it was for sale I did not know its value—I only saw one Sausage Machine,

No 3 [Report on Daniel Whilden]

Executive Chamber

San Francisco Sept 9th 1851

Your Committee report that a Mutineer on board the Steamer *Commodore Stockton* was brought into their Custody by the name of Daniel Whilden

After a full examination we discharged the Prisoner from our custody on the ground that it was a case not properly before us

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Thomas J L Smiley

See pro tem

Capt Henry Randall— I am Capt of the *Northerner*— Daniel Whilden started from Panama in the Propeller *Stockton*—and he with others created a mutiny on board & drove the Capt & crew off the ship—Whilden came on board my ship as passenger at Panama the first I see of him he was urging the

[September 9, 1851]

steerage passengers to go and take the Cabin passengers fare and said follow me as soon as I heard that for fear they would make a rush I stepped up to him and put my hand on his shoulder requested him to be quiet he said no and struck me The steward Doct and 1 mate then took hold of him and I ordered him aft and put him in irons—he has since threatened my life and the mates I believe he was intoxicated at the time or I do not think that he would have done it

David F Whillden— I was born in Philadelphia I have resided in New Orleans for the last 17 years I am a Printer by trade— I was in Texas in the war— I came on the Steamer *Northerner* I was starved most of the passage— fed on stinking meat— this was the cause of the row on board I could get no water most of the time— I could get little or no bread—

I heard from the Steward that there was plenty of bread & I proposed to go and take the bread by force

Question to Capt did I threaten your life

Answer I heard so

[Signed] Stephen F Clark

Attest Fredk A Woodworth

Sept 8 4 [Report on William G. Hance]

Sept 9th 1851

Executive Chamber

San Francisco

Your Committee report that they have in custody one William G Hance, charged with Murder, Robbery, and diverse other heinous Offences against the Peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of New Grenada that although under sentence of death by the said Commonwealth he contrived to break Prison at Panama and made his escape with other Desperadoes, who with said Hance took passage on the *Trescott* and arrived at our Port of San Francisco

It further appears that a reward of \$1000 has been offered for this Hance

Your Committee suggest the propriety of sending this Prisoner back to Panama, on the ground that it would be contrary

[September 9, 1851]

to all Equity that he should be punished by us in absense of all proof, and for crimes committed beyond our jurisdiction

[Signed] S Payran

Thomas J L Smiley

Presdt of Ex Com

Sec pro tem

Stephen P Clark Is Chief Engineer on Steamer *Carolina*.— On the 4th July, Hance the prisoner was in the Prison at Panama—

Prisoner questioned. Knows Dick Jones at Panama— Knows nothing about a murder committed on the Chagres river.

Clark's Examination resumed Hance is guilty of having murdered his wife or the woman he was living with.— He was tried & convicted for the crime & sentenced to the mines from whence he was taken back to Panama and charged with the murder on the Chagres River—He was convicted of this second charge and sentenced to death.— He escaped from prison on the evening of the 4th of July last, went to Toboga and took passage in *Trescott* for San Francisco.

[Signed] Stephen P Clark

Attest Fredk A Woodworth

Sept 8th 1851W^m G Hance lived 2 Years & 5 Mos at Panama

Doct Bouie

" Stout

T. B King

Doct Smith

Judge Hoffman

Pulaski Jacks—

Chg^d with killing
Gonzales—resident
of Panama

Hance & Gonzales & his Brother in Law went out gunning together, started at 6 OClock in the morning we saw some Pidgeons on a Tree, we were on Mules, I, Hance aimed at the Birds gun snapped, tried Again it snapped again—I became angry & threw it down and swore, Gonzales got down & remarked that he could make it go off—he asked for my powder

[September 9, 1851]

& caps & tried it it snapped with him—I rode off—he G. said he would try it again—and said if it did not go off he would [...]

5 [Report of D. L. Oakley]

Executive Chamber

San Francisco September 9th 1851

The Petition of D. L. Oakley (Sergeant at Arms) hereunto annexed having been acted upon

Your Committee directed said D. L. Oakley to dispose of said Merchandise, and render an account of the same to the Finance Committee and pay over the proceeds to the Treasurer

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Thomas J L Smiley Sec pro tem

To the Executive Committee

Gentn There is in my possession, three pieces of calico prints, brought here some six weeks since, by a person who found them on Mares Island. They are somewhat damaged and probably will never be reclaimed. If it is your *pleasure* I will send them to some night action to be sold.⁴

Respectfully &c &c

[Signed] D. L Oakley

Serg^t at ArmsCommittee Room Sept 8th 1851

[Addressed:] To the Executive Committee

Present

6 [Report of Collector of Dues and Fines]

Executive Chamber

San Francisco September 9th 1851

Your Committee have carefully examined the account render of Robert Wells Esquire for Fines and Dues Collected, and believe the same to be correct, but such investigation not belonging

⁴ "San Francisco is even more alive at night than during the day. The shops are all in full blast . . . night auctions of old clothes and new, hats and all Jew wares are common." Theodore Winthrop, *The Canoe and the Saddle*, Tacoma, 1913, p. 234. Mare Island lies in San Pablo Bay, about thirty miles northeast of San Francisco.

[September 9, 1851]

to the Executive we respectfully ask that you will refer the
voucher to the Finance Committee of your body

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ec Com

Thomas J L Smiley

Sec pro tem

Account of Fines and monthly dues Collected for Vigilant
Committee of San Francisco

Amount of Fines	\$40—
-----------------	-------

“ “ Dues	115—
----------	------

	\$155—
--	--------

Commission 10%—	15.50
-----------------	-------

	\$139.50
--	----------

E. E.

San Francisco 1 Sept 1851

[Signed] Robert Wells

Col. of Fines & Dues of the

Vigilant Committee or San Fran^oReceived Sanfrancisco Aug^t 28th 51

of Robert Wells. Collector of Fines & Dues—Vigilance
Committee, the Sum of one hundred and fifty five Doll less ten
per cent commission

155.

15.50

Dan^l L OakleyColl^r of Fines & Dues

	\$139.50
--	----------

[Annotated:] Duplicate

San Francisco 1 Sept 1851.

The “Executive Committee” of the “Vigilance Committee”
of “San Francisco”

Gentlemen. Enclosed please find my accounts for the
Collection of Fines and monthly dues amtg to

\$139.50 One hundred thirty nine 50/100 Doll also Mr
Oakleys duplicate receipts for the above amt. I having paid it
over to him as being appointed recently by you to that office—

[September 9, 1851]

Please examine the same and if correct I beg leave to resign the office of "Collector of Fines & dues of the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco being on the point of leaving the City for some time—

Yours Respytly

[Signed] Robert Wells

[Addressed:]

To the Committee of the Vigilance Committee
San Francisco

[7 Letter from F. P. H. Truman]

Executive Committee

San Francisco Sept 9th 1851

The annexed Letter or Petition of F. P. H. Truman Sets forth that he has discovered some very important means of preventing Fires, and thereby saving property and lives and conceiving that to be the most important branch of the Vigilance Committee, he proposes to make an experiment & thereby to prove the truth of what he asserts

Your Committee cannot deny the utility of any means whereby lives and property may be preserved, and would suggest the propriety of granting the desire of said Truman, and to fix a time and place to see his object tested, all of which we respectfully submit to you for action

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Thomas J L Smiley

Secy pro tem

Chairman of Vigilant Committee

Sir I take this as the only available opportunity of making known, what I intend to communicate to the citizens of San Francisco. As everything has been in so unsettled a state, it was a difficult thing for a man to know how, and to whom, to make application I have at last learned, that nearly all of the Gentlemen of the Vigilance Committee are interested in the preservation of the City from fire, and in improving its condition and appearance If such be the case, I cannot apply to a body

[September 9, 1851]

of men better qualified, more interested, more likely and more able, to carry the improvement I am about to name, into effective execution.

Of all the various accidents to which mankind are continually exposed, none are so distressing as those resulting from fire, as respects the loss of property, and the loss of lives. A happy family, which retired to rest, but a few hours since, in apparent security, is awakened by the dreadful enemy, consider themselves fortunate if they escape with their lives, and without damage to their person. But it often happens, that the effects of the fire, is far more terrible; parents sometimes behold their dearest relations perish in the flames, without the possibility of saving them.

Such distressing evils, as I have lately witnessed in this City, should create, and cherish, the strongest possible desire in the breast of every man, who has an interest, in the preservation of property and of the City, to embrace every opportunity, of becoming possessed of the means, of preserving hereafter, the City, from such frightful losses, and direful calamities.

Although I have no interest in preserving the City, and the immense amount of property, contained in it; and I am quite certain, that by communicating to others, the means of preserving it, before I secure by Patent my interest in the said means, I shall be doing myself a heavy pecuniary loss or injury,

Before the two last destructive fires, which reduced this City to ashes, and destroyed so many lives, I had made up my mind not to make known what I am now going to relate to you, until I had arrived at New York or London, to secure my interest therein by Patent; but such distressing and heartrending calamities, have induced me to change my resolution, in hope of preserving in time to come, the city, lives, and property from the devastating element . . .

[About ten lines of MS. are here torn from the sheet.]

As nearly all fires, arise from trivial beginnings, such as the Snuff of a candle, the fagend of a Cigar, the dust from a Pipe, the spark from a Chimney, or the match of the incendiary, a fire could never take place, were the combustible materials used in Building, properly prepared with the articles I have alluded

[September 9, 1851]

to. It is far better, much easier, and incomparably cheaper, to prevent a fire, than to extinguish it after it begins.

Should any Gentleman of the Vigilant Committee have a desire to witness the effect, of a few experiments, I will prepare a few specimens for that purpose, and will appear at your room with the same, or at any other convenient place which may be appoint.

I have not long to remain in California, before I depart for New York, or for London; but I shall be better pleased to learn through the News Papers, after my arrival at home, that a company of Citizens had been formed in San Francisco, and that the destructive power of fire, had been completely arrested by the said Committee, than to learn through the said News Papers, that the City of San Francisco had been burned down two or three times a year, according to its usual custom.

I am Sir

Yours respectfully

[Signed] F. P. H. Truman

Chairman of Vigilant Committee San Francisco

Sept 4, 1851

I will call, as I pass, about this time tomorrow.

[Addressed:]

Chair of Vigilant Committee

San Francisco

8 [Report on John Ward]

Executive Chamber

San Francisco Sept 9th 1851

In the Matter of John Ward a supposed Convict⁵

Your Committee report that they have examined said Ward, who positively denies being a convict, and also produced the annexed Letter of Simon Lake as to character

After which they discharged said Ward, to be called up again whenever your Committee shall deem it proper to do so

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Thomas J L Smiley

Secy pro tem

⁵ See p. 501.

[September 9, 1851]

Bush St San Francisco

19th Aug^t 1851

To the Vigilant Committee San Francisco

Gentlⁿ Having been called upon by Jn^o Ward this morning to state to you what I know of his character & general deportment while a resident in Sydney New South Wales for a period of at least eight years prior to his leaving for this Country in 1849—I beg to state that I have known Jn^o Ward for upwards of eight years during which time I had an opportunity of closely observing him in his outward deportment—and his conduct always appeared to me to be that of an honest & industrious man, had it been otherwise I should have known it as he lived near my residence for upwards of five Years

I beg to remain

GentlⁿYour Obt Serv^t

[Addressed:]

[Signed] Simon Lake

To the Vigilant Committee

San Francisco

California

9 [Letter from E. G. Austin]

Executive Chamber

San Francisco Sept 9th 1851

To the Committee of Vigilance

The annexed Documents purporting to be claims on the Vigilance Committee for Professional services rendered in the case of Metcalf versus Argenti & Atkinson, should properly come before the Finance Committee for investigation and adjudication⁶

We therefore respectfully ask to be relieved from the charge, and that the matter be referred to the Department to which it belongs

Thomas J L Smiley

[Signed] S Payran

Secy pro tem

Presdt of Ex Com

[Annotated:] Referred to Special Committee of three Mr

Geo Howard Mr Thomas Mr Cartwright

⁶ The report of the trial (*S. F. Herald*, August 18) named Holmes and Lippit as attorneys for Argenti, and E. G. Austin and Judge Bur-

In Superior Court—
City of San Francisco

Peter Metcalf	}	Trespass, <i>quare clausum fregit</i>
vs.		Damages \$20,000
F. Argenti &		Tried. from Aug. 15—to 23 ^d —1851
F. A Atkinson		

San Francisco Aug. 25—1851

Mr. F. A. Atkinson

To Messrs Burritt & Musson Atty Dr.

To prof^l Services in said cause— \$1000—

Superior Court
City of San Francisco

Peter Metcalf	}	Trespass—damages \$20,000
vs.		Tried from Aug. 15 to 23 ^d —
Argenti & Atkinson		

San Francisco—Aug 25. 1851

Mr. F A Atkinson

To E G Austin Atty &c Dr.

To prof^l Services in said cause \$1000

San Francisco August 26th 1851

Mr F A Atkinson

Sir Notice has been served on me that in the case of Peter Metcalf vs Argenti & Yourself that the Plaintiff intends to move for leave to amend his complaint so as to claim "Fifty thousand dollars" damages.

Yours &c

[Signed] E G Austin

Sept 8th/51

Dear Sir

The hearing of the motion was postponed in consequence of Mr Randolph's sickness to the 22^d of the month.

The fees of the Clerk and the Sheriff amounting to \$124.95 is ritt for Atkinson. If the Committee ever paid the lawyers in this case, the fact was not recorded in the treasurer's book.

[September 9, 1851]

required by them to be paid immediately. Please to notify Mr Cartwright or Mr Payran of this, today that it may be attended to at once

Yrs &c

[Signed] E G Austin

10 [Letter from Vigilance Committee, Sonora]

Executive Chamber

San Francisco September 9th 1851

Your Committee respectfully submit the annexed Letter from our Brethren composing the Vigilance Committee of Sonora who so cordially applaud our acts and so truthfully denounce those who should have been our Guardians

We respectfully suggest that the Letter be answered with the thanks of the Committee

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Thomas J L Smiley

Secy pro tem

S. Payran Esq

Sir, At a meeting of the Vigilance Com. of the City of Sonora, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted viz.

Resolved, that for two years past the State of California has been the theatre of outrages of every description, and bloodshed and violence fostered by the imbecility of our rulers and the mal-administration of Justice coupled in so many instances with the most palpable and reckless corruption, have ridden rampant over the liberty, lives and property of the peaceful and well meaning citizens of the state.

In this dangerous state of society the *People* resuming the power which they had delegated to servants who were found incapable or unwilling to perform their sacred trusts, took prompt and stringent measures to effect that, which the Executive, and the administrations of justice were incapable of doing. viz. giving support to the Laws, restoring the tranquility of the community, ferreting out the desperate bands of ruffians infesting the country and bringing them to instant and condign punishments—

[September 9, 1851]

How the People have performed this assumed duty, the forbearance they have shown in every instance, the willingness and activity with which they have labored in their arduous work, the *result*, are facts as well known to the Executive and courts of Law, as by an admiring and grateful community—

Now therefore, viewing the conduct of Gov McDougal, who has hidden himself in disgraceful obscurity while his power might have effected the desired end, and now coming forward with officious interference, be it *resolved* that Gov^r McDougal has acted traitorously against the peace and good order of the State and is undeserving of aught but the reprobation of the people of California—

[Signed] William Perkins, Secy

Chamber of Sonora Vigilance Com

August 23rd 1851

S Payran Esq

Sir Allow me as an exponent of the opinions of the members of our body, congratulating you on the act of summary Justice you have just shown to the world in the execution of Whittaker and McKenzie—Allow me to say we are cordially with you

I am, Sir

Very Respty Your Obt Sevt

[Signed] William Perkins

Secy Com of V.

Sonora Aug 26 1851

11 [Resignation of J. Spaulding]

Executive Committee

San Francisco Sep 9th 1851

Your Committee report that the annexed resignation of J. Spaulding on the ground of being a non resident,

And would suggest that the resignation be accepted so far as to granting him leave of absence & remittance of dues & fines

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Thomas J L Smiley

Secy pro Tem.

[September 9, 1851]

To the President of the Vigilant Committee

I have received your Note under date 31st ult. requiring my attention this day on duty.

I am with you heart & hand but I must tender my resignation, for this reason that I am no longer a resident of San Francisco, I am a resident of Benicia

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Svt

[Signed] J Spalding

12 [Report of D. L. Oakley]

Executive Committee

San Francisco Sept 9th 1851

The subjoined document submitted by D. L. Oakley Sergeant at Arms, which shows an indebtedness on part of W^m H Jones of \$25 for Dues collected by him of others

We respectfully suggest that a Committee be appointed to investigate this matter

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Thomas J L Smiley

Sec pro tem

Mr W H Jones is indebted to this body for his	
own Dues July & Aug	\$10
from J. F Osgood	5
H Hazeltine	5
J Wilber	5
	total \$25

He told F A Atkinson Collector of Fines and Dues he would pay nothing

[Signed] D L Oakley

Sergt at Arms

Sept 9th 1851

[Annotated:] F. P. H. Truman

Report of the Treasurer⁷

19 Bills unpaid amounting to	\$1788.35
By Cash on hand	" 491.79

Due	\$1296.56
-----	-----------

Jail funds.

Amount to	\$4,484.—
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San Francisco 9 Sept^{br} 1851
[Signed] Eug Delessert
Treasurer

[Annotated:] "laid on the table"

[Report of the Sergeant-at-Arms]

Amount of Initiation fees & assessments, not paid to date	\$31.30
Amt of Fines	45.00

\$76.30

Some of the above dues will not be paid in consequence of the absence of the Debtors. I will render a complete detail previous to Saturday next.

Respectfully yours

Sept 10th

[Signed] D L Oakley

S. at arms

To E Delessert Esq.

[Caleb Hyatt to Eugene Delessert]

San Francisco Sept 9th /51

Mr E. Delessert Treasurer of Vigilant Committee

Please pay to Mr L Tuffs five dollars for the benefit of Thomas Berdue and credit my bill with the am^t

Respectfully

Caleb Hyatt

L Tuffs

[Annotated:] Oriental hotel

⁷ See p. 767.

[September 9, 1851]

Matthias Harth Sept. 9. 1851

To the Committee of Vigilance

Gentn After an absence of seven years, I intend visiting my native place. I have done my duty while a member of this association and none can gainsay it. I now request an unlimited leave of absence, intending to return and, if this association is in existence, to renew my relations with it.

With sentiments of Deep respect I remain

Gentlemen Your Obdt Servt

[Signed] Matthias Harth

Nº 611.

Sanfrancisco Sept 9th 1851

[Annotated:] "leave of absence granted" and a vote of thanks passed to the gent

[Addressed:]

To the Committee of Vigilance

Present

[*Communication from Thomas McCahill*]

"Gentlemen"

From, a remark I made in my "Statement"—a while since, it might be inferred that I meant disrespect towards Mr Smith—Chief of Police, and least the Committee should infer any thing of that kind, I hereby state that I never aluded to Mr Smith in any manner disrespectful whatever, on the contrary I have a very grate respect for the Gentleman^s

Respectfully

[Signed] Thomas McCahill

Sept 9, 1851

[*Letter from Sheriff McKimney, of Napa County*]

Napa Sept 9th 1851

John A Spooner

Sir I have had a *Dutch Gentleman*, in charge who goes by the name of *Auther Deeds* for stealing a horse from Elj Pheps I had him chained to the floor in the *garret* of the American House he managed by the assistance of a *gentleman* to make

* See McCahill's resignation, p. 631.

[September 9, 1851]

his escape last night about 10, O'Clock, I firmly believe that he went to San Francisco in a launch that is shipping hay for Cordua—He is about 5 ft 6 in high very fair complexion with light hair and cut very short—The hair grows low down on his *forehead*, He is a fine scholar and can read and write the English, French, German, and Italian languages. His beard is short and curly on his chin and upper lip and very thin on his jaws, he went away without hat or any clothing except a shirt and pantaloons— He used to work for Cordua cutting hay— When he was about here he wore a high crowned white fur hat and a large blue coat always buttoned up hot or cold If you and the rest of the *Committee* will catch him and *hang him* or keep him until I can get him you will confer a favor your friend

[Signed] N. M. McKimmey

Sheriff of Napa Co.

J. A Spooner

[Addressed:]

J. A Spooner Esqr,
San Francisco

Cal,

Favor M Edmondsten

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Order in regard to Jail Fund]

E Delessert Esqr

Treasurer V. C. Please pay to the order of John C Hays Esq Sheriff of the County of San Francisco the sum of Forty four hundred & Eighty four Dollars the same being the amount collected and paid in in "Jail Fund

San Francisco Sept 10th 1851

\$4484 00/100

[Signed]

James C. S. Wadsworth

"

Geo R Ward

"

P D Hedley

}	Finance
	Committee
	of
	V. C

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Report in the Case of Pat Sweeney]

Executive Chamber of the Committee of Vigilance of the
City & County of San Francisco
September 11th 1851

In the matter of Pat Sweeney, under sentence of Banishment
This case came up before your Committee for reconsideration

At which time it was clearly shown to your Committee, that
said Sweeney had never been a Convict, and during his residence
in San Francisco had uniformly supported a good character for
honesty

When arrested he was supposed to have been an accomplice
and confederate with Hennessey Mrs Connolly and others, but
since it has been ascertained that he boarded with Hennessey,
whose wife has been a servant to his Father's family in the
Colonies

After due consideration of all the facts we discharged said
Sweeney under a solemn promise that he would keep out of bad
company and become a good citizen

We therefore ask of your body a confirmation of our act
touching this case

[Signed] Stephen Payran
Presdt of Ex Committee

Attest G. W. Ryckman
Sec. pro. tem.

[Annotated:] adopted

[Report in the Case of Thomas Speeding]

Executive Chamber
Of the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco
September 11th 1851

In the case of Thomas Speeding charged with Grand
Larceny

Your Committee report that they have had said Prisoner in
custody for some days, and examined many witnesses both for and
against the Prisoner

[September 11, 1851]

And although the circumstances appeared strong, yet nevertheless the proof being sufficient as to how the Prisoner became possessed of the money found upon himself and wife, and no other money being found, and also proof of previous good character

Your Committee deemed it both prudent and proper to discharge said Prisoner, under an injunction to assist and search for the lost money and make report thereon

We therefore ask for confirmation of our act

[Signed] Stephen Payran
Presdt of Ex Committee

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro tem

[Annotated:] adopted

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[C. B. Loomis to Captain Randall]

Will Capt Randall have the kindness to leave word at what hour he will be at this office, as I should like to see him on business in relation to Mr McEwen

[Signed] C. B. Loomis

Sept 12/51

[Addressed:]

Capt Henry Randall

Present

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of General Com Sept 13, 1851

Capt J F Hutton in the Chair

Minutes of former Meeting read & approved

On motion of Mr Cartwright

Resolved, That the Collector be authorized by the Com-

[September 13, 1851]

mittee to ask each member for the amount of Gaol funds in his possession.

On motion of Mr Cartwright

Resolved, That the bill of Capt of Brig Zone be audited by the Finance Committee and that the Treasurer pay the same, and further that this Committee give to each prisoner that have none one pair of blankets¹

On motion

Resolved That the resolution for the arrest of Chas Duane be laid upon the table—

On motion Mr Smiley

Resolved That a committee of one be appointed by the Chair to proceed to Valejo and request of the Govenor to give the names of the Gentlemen who signed a petition for the pardon of Charles Duane

On motion of Capt Garwood

Resolved, That the Special Committee who were appointed to select an Executive Committee for the transaction of business of General Committee report on tuesday evening next.

On motion

Resolved, That all burglars tools and pistols taken from prisoners be retained by this Committee after said prisoners are disposed of—

On motion

Resolved That the action of the Executive Committee in charging W Clay 21.\$ for expenses & board be endorsed by the General Committee— Carried—

On motion of George R Ward

Resolved That a Committee of twelve be appointed to collect the dues and fines now due, and to pay over the same as collected to the Treasurer of the Vigilance Committee and make a final report at the next stated meeting on Tuesday next—and That the names of each member who does not pay shall be read at next meeting The following were appointed Collectors. Mr Bromley, Geo H Howard, J C L Wardsworth, Geo J Oakes, Thompson Huie, N Miller Talmage, S L Dewey Fred Woodworth, Isaac Bluxome Jr A J Cornell, B G Davis

¹ See voucher No. 43, p. 782.

{September 13, 1851]

The Finance Committee report 351.50
 that the balance on hand is 351.50

“ bills due and audited 847.20
 “ “ purchased & not audited 376.45

 \$1223.65

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Report in the Case of Thomas Speeding]

Executive Chamber

Sept 13th 1851

Your Committee refer the annexed receipt of Thomas Speeding to your body with a request that it be ordered to be filed pro forma

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec pro tem

[Annotated:] accepted

Received San Francisco September 11. 1851 from Committee of Vigilance the sum of Thirty three $75/100$ dolls taken from me by said Committee at the time of my arrest and the further sum of Four hundred & twenty six dollars taken from my wife at the same time

\$459. $75/100$

[Signed] Thomas Speeding

[Report in the Cases of Charles Duane]

Executive Committee

September 13th 1851

To the General Committee of Vigilance

Gentlemen Your Executive Committee report, in the Case of Charles Duane

First. That an order was passed to notify said Charles Duane to quit the State within Fifteen days

[September 13, 1851]

Afterwards the matter was reconsidered, and believing that such order would be in direct contravention of the action had by the General Committee in said Premises, your Committee rescinded their previous order and passed an order that the said Charles Duane should be arrested and held subject to your action, and thereupon issued said order, directing the Chief of Police to carry out the same

And farther report that the said order has not yet been returned,

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman,

Sec. pro-tem.

[Annotated:] Accepted

*Report on the case of J. B. M. Crooks*San Francisco September 13th 1851

Executive Chamber of the Committee of Vigilance

Your Committee respectfully submit the subjoined account of J. B. M. Crooks, for action it needs no comment from us

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Committee

[Annotated:] Mr Crooks expelled and Secretary notify Sergeant at Arms of the fact

San Francisco Sept 11th 1851

Mr J. B. M. Crooks

To the Committee of Vigilance	Dr
For the dues for the months of July & August	10.
" fines for non attendance when detailed for duty	20.

Reed Payment	\$30.
--------------	-------

[Annotated:] Says he will be dam^d before he pays

Collector

[Endorsed:] J. B. M. Crooks Montgomery St wont pay

[Report of Finance Committee]

The Committee on Finance respectfully report.

[September 13, 1851]

That by an account current of the Treasurer made up to this day there is a balance on hand of ² \$351.50

That there are bills due and audited \$847.20

Bills presented & not audited 376.45

\$1223.65

Against which the Sergent at Arms as per schedule handed in have an ammt of \$2555.

for dues after making all reasonable allowances for claims not collectable—[Added on margin] Fines not included in this amount which amount to over \$4500.

This Committee cannot too strongly recommend to the "Committee of Vigilance" that prompt steps be immediately taken to collect the outstanding dues or to take such other steps as their wisdom may suggest to liquidate the debts of the Committee and retrieve the credit of the Committee that they find with deep regret has suffered in public opinion by the delay that has already occurred.

This Committee has also to report that in accordance with the resolution passed 9 Inst they have paid over to the Sheriff of the County the sum of \$4484. the same being the amount collected & paid into the hands of the treasurer for the "Jail Funds," but would also suggest that doubtless many other collections have been made by members of the "Committee of Vigilance," who have not paid over the same not being aware that the funds were required and would respectfully suggest that measures be taken to make their collections and transfer the same to the Sheriff of this County for the purpose for which the donations were made

All of which is respectfully submitted

[Signed] Geo R Ward

" Eug Delessert

Treasurer

" J C L Wadsworth

} Com
on
Finance

San Fr^{co} 13 Sept 1851

[Annotated:] Accepted

² See p. 768.

[September 13, 1851]

Report in the Matter of Rent of Committee Room

Executive Chamber

September 13th 1851

Your Committee report the annexed Bill of rental of the Premises now occupied by the Committee³

It is stated that the owners refuse to rent the premises at a less rent than the amount stated in the Bill

It is necessary that the matter be referred to the Finance Committee, more properly belonging to him

[Signed] S Payran

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Presdt of Ex Com

Sec pro tem

[Annotated:] referred to finance Committee with order to pay 300\$

[Report of Reuben Calhoun]

Chairman Executive Committee.

Gent^l. After diligent search. I am satisfied that the two men, passengers by the Ship "*Trescot*," with "Hance" (now your prisoner) left San Francisco in a small sch. on Thursday Eve. for "Sonoma."

Frank & William are the names by which they go, Frank from all accounts is a desperate man, and would not hesitate to commit any crime.

I have a description of them.

Respectly &c

[Signed] 620. R. Calhoun

San Francisco Sept. 13. 1851

Present

[Addressed:]

Chairman Executive Com'tee

Present

[Resignation of J. F. Curtis]

Executive Chamber

September 13th 1851

The annexed resignation of James F. Curtis Esquire as a

³ See voucher No. 44, p. 782.

[September 13, 1851]

member of the Executive is offered for confirmation, and for such further action as the case may require

[Signed] S Payran
Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec pro tem

[Annotated:] accepted

San Francisco Sept 11th 1851

To the Pres^t Ex Committee

Sir, Please accept my resignation as a member of your body—

My business engagements will not allow that unremitting attention to the duties of the Executive, so necessarily devolving upon each member—

With feelings of esteem I remain Sir

Yours truly

[Signed] James F. Curtis

[Annotated:] Accepted Sept 11. 1851

[Resignation of E. M. Earl]

Executive Chamber

San Francisco September 13th 1851

Your Committee respectfully present the subjoined resignation for action

[Signed] S Payran
Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec pro tem

[Annotated:] laid on the table

San Francisco Sept. 9th 1851

D^r Sir—

Without entertaining a doubt as to the necessity of the Organization and action of the "Vigilance Committee" Yet believing that the time has arrived, when our future welfare & reputation both at *Home & Abroad* calls upon us voluntarily to surrender into the hands of the legally constituted officers—recently ap-

[September 13, 1851]

pointed by the people, the powers that have been assumed and exercised by the Committee—I herewith respectfully tender my resignation as a member of the Committee of Vigilance—and ask that my name be stricken from the Roll of members

Very Respectfully

Yours &c—

[Signed] E. M. Earl

No. 170—

To Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary &c—

Thos McCahill. Resignation. September 13, 1851

San Francisco Sept 13th/51

To the president of the ex committee

Haveing been informed to night, that by a vote of the ex Committee, I have been requested to resign, I beg leave to say that it affords me grate pleasure to withdraw from said Committee, and of having an opportunity to do so

Respectfully

[Signed] T. McCahill

Executive Chamber

San Francisco Sept 13th 1851

Your Committee report the resignation of Thomas McCahill Esquire as a Member of the Executive Committee,

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman,

Sec. pro-tem

[Annotated:] accepted

[*Resignation of Stephen Payran*]

Saturday September 13th 1851

Executive Chamber

of the Committee of Vigilence of San Francisco

To my Colleagues Members of the Executive

Gent It is with unfeigned regret, and indeed sorrow, that I offer you my resignation as a member of your board,

[September 13, 1851]

I have been long with you, and hoped to have conscientiously discharged my duty without regard to consequences, jealousy or censure, I have been informed that I in common with others have been made such a subject that although not present with you but absent on Tuesday our acts have been called into question; in so much that reform in your Executive body is considered necessary

Notwithstanding the desire for reform, or rather the dissolution of the Association permit me to say, that amidst opposition, inattention, and carelessness, we have together brought all things to an happy issue and assisted to restore peace safety and tranquility to our City

I would love to see it continue for all time, and firmly believe that if the Association could exist under its present order, it would tend to preserve the happy state of our City and State, and make it the abode of Safety, happiness and prosperity—

Dissolve it, or do anything that would serve to disorganize it, in its essentials, you will throw it open to abuses, never to be recovered from—Anarchy and confusion would soon reign in our midst,

I would say to the General Committee through you that although I expected no thanks, I little thought I should receive censure, and that too when not present to resent it, suffice it to say with you I came in under the original constitution of the Committee, (and if reorganized) I die with it,

As a Citizen I am with you in all legitimate affairs tending to our Interest, or rather the Interests of the People,

I bid you an affectionate farewell, with this hope that your Successors, may not lose sight of what has preceded them

[Signed] S Payran

[Plan for Reorganization¹]

Whereas seeming quiet peace and safety has attended our career of vigilence up to this period, and the dreaded evils to be apprehended from sudden outbreaks of the people have fallen

¹ This undated document, in Payran's handwriting, was probably prepared at the time of reorganization. There is no endorsement or annotation to show that it was submitted to the Committee.

[September 13, 1851]

short of the expectation of those who were opposed to such measures

And whereas the Committee of Vigilance of this City has been the Foster Father of all such Institutions throughout the State, whereby safety has been guaranteed to our Brethern, and hundreds of the evil-minded who were in our midst have fled, whereby much danger will be avoided

It now becomes us to so arrange the basis of our Association, that its labors may be lessened, and our usefulness continued, and the future present a bright scene compared with the past

Therefore we would suggest the propriety of this Committee continuing in its present form and in the following order

That the Executive Committee continue to discharge their duties by meeting (at a room to be selected) and there receive all reports that may be offered, and should any case occur of sufficient importance to call the General Committee together to then call them by notice to be given through the Public Papers or Tap of the Bell

And in conjunction with other Associations throughout the State, to hold all public matters under consideration, and report thereon,

To hold the acts of all our representatives subject to our examination, so that thereby some assurance may be had of their faithfully discharging their duties

We would also suggest the propriety of receiving all good citizens as members, who shall at their initiation pay five dollars with such monthly stipend as may be fixed upon

That there shall be a stated meeting of the General Committee not oftener than once a month, except in cases of necessity

That this Association shall not lose its identity, but exist in all its properties liable to be called into action whenever necessity may require

Resolved therefore that the Committee of Vigilance shall still continue under its present organization,

That the present order of business shall continue, and no meeting shall be called of the General Committee except on urgent business to be determined by the Executive

That the said Executive or a quorum of five meet every even-

[September 13, 1851]

ing (at the place to be designated) and there receive reports, and attend to such matters as may come before them

That the services of a Sergeant at Arms under Salary be dispensed with, that the duty be placed on one of the Committee, who may retain the man (George or some other person) in our employ to take care of the room and attend the door

That the proceedings of the present Committee shall be engrossed and taken charge of by them for such future action as may be taken

That the Qualification Committee shall be merged in the Executive Committee, and that no new member shall be admitted except through and by the Executive Committee, under such rules and regulations as they may hereafter adopt.

[That there shall be a Judiciary Committee who shall have the Surveillance of the Judiciary of the County, as well as the subordinate branches of the same⁵]

That there shall be a Finance Committee whose business it shall be to take or receive all monies, and make disbursements on orders from the Executive signed by a Quorum

Also—That the Executive Committee shall have power to dispose of all surplus property the proceeds of the same to be paid over to the Treasury & to fill any vacancies that may occur in their midst from the General Committee—

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Resignation of G. E. Schenk*]

Executive Chamber

San Francisco Sept 14th 1851

To the Committee of Vigilance

Gentlemen It is with great regret that we offer the annexed resignation of our Brother G. E. Schenk, who is about to leave the State on a visit, he has labored long and arduously with us throughout the trying scenes that have passed has shown

⁵ The paragraph in brackets has been crossed out.

[September 14, 1851]

himself an earnest advocate in our noble efforts to secure life and property against danger

We humbly trust that in the acceptance of his resignation as a member of the Executive Body you will not forget what is due to one so meritorious

[Signed] S Payran
Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman
Sec. protem.

[Annotated:] adopted with the thanks of this Com

San Francisco Sept 10 1851

To the Executive Committee of the V. C.

Gentlemen My contemplated departure for my native State renders it necessary that I should resign my seat as a member of your body.

In doing so allow me to express to you the sincere regret I feel at parting with Gentlemen who by their many Virtues have so endeared themselves to me, that their names shall ever hold a place in my memory.

Though I may be far from you, my heart and sympathies will be ever with you.

You will I now continue in the good work, you have so wisely and so justly begun and brought to such just conclusions Go on Gentlemen in this good cause of reform, in Criminal Jurisprudence, Ever keep a Vigilant Eye on those placed in office, from the Chief Officer of State, to the lowest in the gift of the people—

Let them know that they are the *Servents* of the people and to them they must surrender their trusts, when not faithfully executed—

Use your influence Gentlemen for the establishment of Schools, Academies, and Seminarys, of learning and virtue. This accomplished, you can with pride say that this—our State of california has become one of the brightest Stars in the great galaxy of our glorious Union—

Gentlemen allow me to express to you and through you to all the members of the Vigilance Committee, my sincere wishes

[September 14, 1851]

for their personal welfare, and for the lasting good and greatness, of this your adopted City and State.

With sentiments of great regard & esteem I beg to remain ever

Yours Truly &c

[Signed] Geo. Everett Schenck¹

To

Stepan Payran

President Ex Committee

September 11. 1851

Executive Chamber

G. E Schenck Esqr

of the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco

Dear Sir In the name and on behalf of my Colleagues constituting the Executive body of our association to express our sincere regret at a separation with one whom we so fondly esteem

We can never forget when with us at the inception of our duties you joined us with a willing heart and firm hand to relieve our adopted City from the many impending evils that hung over it.

We had suffered much and suffered long the torch of the Incendiary had destroyed us many times, ruin so frequently fell to our lot, that we became dismayed, the lives of many of our valuable citizens had been destroyed by the hands of assassins, it was under such a state of things that we banded ourselves together, having no alternative, our Judiceary and subordinates, had become corrupt; desperate offenders were allowed to go forth in our midst to riot on our lives and property for their pecuniary advantage.

Although the day was dark, and danger stared us in the face, we essayed to meet the storm and test the consequence, the spirits of our revolutionary Sires prompted us, virtue guided our acts, corrupt representatives yielded, Felons and Incendiaries fled, light has taken the place of darkness, and a calm has succeeded the storm, peace and security are restored.

¹ The *S. F. Herald*, October 15, noted the departure for the east of G. E. Schenck.

[September 14, 1851]

You are about to revisit the scenes of your Youth, to see Eye to Eye those whom you love; and with you will attend the sincere wishes of your Colaborers that your fondest expectations may be realized

We humbly trust that if you ever feel disposed to revisit us, that you may find the good seed sown by us in honesty bringing forth all that we so ardently have desired, that California may be the abode of virtue and Innocence, and that such Confidence may be felt in its Institutions that yourself and all our Brethren may be induced to bring out their wives and children, and thereby to strengthen what we have done, as to bid defiance to the vicious and evil minded

Assure your friends sir that we are worthy of all commendation, that hereafter they may treat with us commercially with confidence

You are granted leave of absence and a remittance of all dues until your return

signed Stephen Payran
President Ex Committee

Attest

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1851

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Report in the Case of Howard, a Deserter from the U. S. Army*]

Executive Chamber

San Francisco Sept 13 [15] 1851

To the Committee of Vigilance

Gentlemen Some days since a Deserter from the service of the U. S. Army was arrested by our Committee and brought into custody—he was examined by the Executive and ordered to be given up, as well as to receive the sum of \$30 for such Arrest, all of which we presumed had been done, although no report has been made

Today the annexed Letter of Mr Bohrer was handed in, by it he admits the fact of the desertion &c. but for the first time are we made aware of the arrest being made by Mr Bohrer (who

[September 15, 1851]

is a member of the Committee) nor do we see that it alters the case.

The Executive have no power to reconsider the matter, it having been acted on by your body, therefore we submit his Letter to you for such action as you may adopt in the premises

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Committee

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro-tem

[Annotated:] adopted

Committee Room

Sept 15 1851

Executive Committee Committee of Vigilance

Gentlemen I have been called upon to day to pay a bill of \$30 for the arrest of the man Howard as a deserter from the U. S. Army. I wish to state that while the troops from the "Presidio" were on the expedition in the Indian Country as an escort to the Commissioners, I was ordered to that post (Presidio) to take charge of it & the public property, and while there this person Howard was sent there under my charge, he had been there for some time, and deserted, I spent many days looking after him without avail, till within two months ago I found him & sent him to the Presidio, where he deserted again. I searched for him then and did not find him until a few days ago, and brought him up here until I could make the necessary arrangements for carrying him to his Post, and I myself thought that as I had all the trouble with him that surely I should receive the reward for my labors, but whereas I find that I am adjudged to pay this sum back. Hoping gentlemen that you will reconsider that action I submit this to you for your decision¹

I am gentlemen

Very Respty

Your Obt Sevt

[Signed] C. Bohrer

[Addressed:]

Stephen Payran Esq

Presdt Ex. Committee

Com. of Vigilance

¹ There is no record to show that the Committee collected this reward.

[September 15, 1851]

[*Report on Prisoners*]

Executive Chamber

Sept 15th 1851

Your Committee respectfully inform you that all the Convicts and Prisoners in our Custody have been disposed of agreeably to your orders

We would therefore respectfully suggest that all the documents of the present Executive be engrossed, and ordered to remain in the Custody of such member of the Executive, as a majority of the Executive may select, so that the same may be carefully preserved in good faith that in the future their actions may be shown to any representative body, should it be required

These documents begun and ended with the present Executive, and cannot be of any present utility to any Executive body you may appoint to fill our places and we humbly trust that although reform may be your desire, you surely have confidence in our integrity, we have and feel a deep solicitude in the careful preservation of these Documents

[Signed] S Payran

Presd of Ex Committee

Attest G. W. Ryckman, Sec. pro-tem.

[Annotated:] laid on the table Sept 16, 1851

I B Jr Secy

[*Report. Case of W. C. Hance*]

Executive Chamber

Sept 15th 1851

Committee of Vigilance

Your Committee report that they appointed Mr Cartwright a Committee of one to attend to the Shipping of Hance per Steamer of to day, his report is hereunto annexed and submitted to you for confirmation

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman

Sec. pro tem.

[September 15, 1851]

San Francisco Sept 15/51

According to the above order I proceeded to the Ship *Panama* & had a conference with Capt Watkins & by him was referred to Mr Knight Agt for the P. M. Steam Co & by an arrangement with the parties I shipped W. C. Hance per Stear *Panama* which sailed this day—& wrote a Letter to Capt Watkins requesting him to claim the reward of \$1000—offered by the authorities of New Grenada & pay over the same to the Vigilance Committee of this City after deducting the amt of passage money & charges²

All of which is respectfully submitted—

[Signed] J W Cartwright—

[Annotated:] adopted

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of General Committee Sept 16. 1851

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the Chair

Minutes of former meeting read & approved

The Special Com appointed to waite up[on] the Gov McDougal beg to report that they have seen and made the request desired by this Committee and he declines to give the names of the Gent who signed the petition for the release of Chas Duane

By M Cartwright—[...]

By Fred Woodworth [...]

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Receipt from Thomas Burdue*]

Received San Francisco September 16. 1851 from Isaac Bluxome Jr Secretary of the Vigilance Committee the sum of two Hundred and fifty two dollars money collected by subscriptions for me and Fifty dollars paid three weeks since by same party

[Signed] Thomas Burdeu¹

252

50

\$302

² There is no record that the Committee ever received the reward.

¹ See note 1, p. 550. The spelling Burdeu has not been adopted by

[September 16, 1851]

[Subscription for Thomas Burdue]

J. J. Chaviteau	10 \$	
Madam De Bucoaur	4.	Bekure
Senor Oreige	10.	Orago
Senor G. Alvaras	16.	
Senor Sartrusteka	50.	
	—	
	50.	

Presented by P. Petrovits on behalf of the Donors for the benefit of Burdue Your Committee respectfully suggest that a vote of thanks be passed to the Donors through the Executive who have been deputed to make the presentation on behalf of P. Petrovits Esquire

[Signed] S Payran
Presdt of Ex Com

Attest G. W. Ryckman
Sec. pro. tem.

[Resolution]

Resolved that the new executive Committee be authorized to give up their present Head Quarters & procure some suitable place of meeting less expensive than the present—and also to dispose of all surplus effects & pay the avails[?] into the Hands of the Treasurer of the executive Committee—

[Signed] J W. Cartwright

Sept 16/51

[Annotated:] adopted

[Resolution²]

By D J Thomas

Resolved—That each person appointed on the Ex Com—
be required to notify the President in writing of his acceptance,

the editor, because the signature is somewhat obscure, and elsewhere in these documents, in the papers of the day, and in published accounts of his story, the form Burdue has been universally followed.

² The minutes for September 16 are, evidently, very incomplete, as the report of the committee on reorganization (p. 642), was presented and adopted at a meeting of the General Committee held on that date (*Alta California*, September 17). The resolution of D. J. Thomas prob-

[September 16, 1851]

& that any one who does not give such notice shall not be a member of the Committee

that the Gent have 10 days to accept—

That the Secy notify each member of his election

Sept 16. 1851

[*Resignation of J. C. L. Wadsworth from the Finance Committee*]

Executive Chamber

To the Committee of Vigilance

Sept 16th 1851

Permit me to present the resignation J. C. L. Wadsworth Esquire as a member of the Finance Committee, which is presented for acceptance

[Signed] S Payran

Presdt of Ex Com

[Annotated:] laid on the table

San Francisco Sept 15th 1851

Gentlemen

Please accept my resignation as a member of the Finance Committee

Very Respectfully Yours

[Signed] J C L Wadsworth

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17. 1851

MINUTES

[After the reorganization, minutes were copied in a leather-bound record book, 10½ × 15½ inches in size, and the legible handwriting and consistent form of entry, reflect great credit on the accuracy and zeal of the secretary, Isaac Bluxome, Jr. Among the loose papers many drafts of the minutes are also preserved, and comparison sometimes furnishes useful annotations to the copy in the record book.]

Proceedings of Executive Committee San Francisco Sept 17. 51

Report of Select Committee of five

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of selecting the names of Fifty or a less number of Gentlemen to constitute

ably followed the election of the new Executive Committee, and examples of the correspondence there authorized are to be found on pp. 647-649.

[September 17, 1851]

an Executive Committee who shall hold their offices for a period of six months, and to suggest such other measures as in their judgment may be of interest to the association and the community beg leave respectfully to report

That they have selected the following names of Gentlemen in number forty four as candidates for election by the Association. That they recommend upon the election of the Committee that the association adjourn "sine die" and the present acting Executive Committee turn over to the newly selected committee all papers, books, and documents emanating in the operations of the Committee since its formation.

That twenty two members of this Committee shall hold their office for a period of one year from the date of election and twenty two for a period of six months the short and long term to be determined by drawing.

That they shall choose their own officers, and shall have power to fill any vacancies that may arise by resignation or otherwise.

That fifteen days before the expiration of the six months for which they are elected they shall call the association together and submit a report in writing of their proceedings during the period of six months, and the association shall then elect twenty two members to fill the vacancies of those whose term of six months have expired.

That said Executive Committee shall take no action for the arrest of criminals or in any manner interpose with the due course of law but should any emergency arise which in their judgment requires again the action of the association they shall call them together by such signals as may be agreed upon.

That this committee be instructed to watch with vigilance the actions of our courts having criminal jurisdiction and also all men in official stations and especially observe the operation of the laws now in force and should they deem it expedient to have such laws altered or amended whereby greater facilities may be had to convict and punish criminals they may be authorized to petition the legislature upon the subject and use their exertions to have such amendments carried.

The Association believing the Community rely mainly upon

[September 17, 1851]

them to shield them from the evils arising from the mal administration of the law, the association will hold this executive Committee to a strict accountability in the performance of this duty.

The following are the special committee Capt. J F Hutton, Saml Dewey, F Argenti, E Delasaret, Charles L Case.

The following is a list of Gentlemen proposed for the Executive Committee.

W D M Howard	J Pratt Stephens
Sam' Brannan	G M Garwood
W T Coleman	G W Ryckman
Jas C Ward	T J L Smiley
Capt E Gorham	J W Cartwright
B C Saunders	W ^m W Thompson
S E Woodworth	L D Kinnay
James King of W ^m	A Kirchner
James Dowes	W H White
H F Teschemacher	Capt John Raynes
Dr A B Stout	" D Jan[yrin?]
F Vassault	Jas M Swift
J S Parrott	Geo R Ward
R M Jessup	H M Naglee
J B Huie	W Burling
Joseph Post	J Delong
Charles Griswold	W C Annan
Col White	Lieut L Maynard
Stephen Payran	W A Darling
Dr Beers	
H A Cobb	

The above list of names were approved by the General Committee and they were declared duly elected.

It b[e]ing stated by one of the General Committee that Col White was about leaving the City for a time a vaceney was declared and the Chairman was called upon to appoint a Gentleman to fill said vaceney.

[September 17, 1851]

The Chairman appointed Capt J F Hutton, and was approved of by the general committee.

On motion of [. . .]

The names of the special committee appointed to select the names of fifty gentlemen to serve as an Executive Committee shall be added to the forty names, carried and the following names were added Samuel Dewey, Felix Argenti, Eugene Delessert, and Charles L Case.

Minutes of Executive Committee September 17. 1851

Members of Executive Committee of 44, present 27.

Cap't. J F Hutton was called to the Chair.

Upon balloting for President Mr Stephen Payran was elected.

Mr Isaac Bluxome Jr was elected a member of the Executive Committee in place of J Pratt Stephens who did not accept

Mr. Bluxome was also elected secretary.

Mr F Woodworth was elected a member of Executive Committee in place of Dr Beers, who is not a member of Vigilance Committee

The following Gent were elected as the Finance Committee George R Ward, L Maynard, & E Delasaret.

The following motion was made by Capt J F Hutton

That Mr. Bluxome be authorized to collect the amount of dues & fines now due this Committee and receive 10% on amount collected, and also that he be allowed to employ one of the Collectors of the Committee.

On motion of Capt Hutton

Resolved That a Committee of three be appointed by the President to draw up bylaws for the government of the Executive Committee and also to report the number necessary to form a quorum. The following gent were appointed Mr. S. Payran, G W Ryckman, L Maynard¹

On motion of James C Ward

Resolved That a committee of three be appointed to select a proper room for the Executive Committee, and that said committee remove the furniture to it. Committee, Mr S Payran, E Gorham & H A Cobb

¹See report of the committee, p. 659.

[Cap't W D M Howard

That Mr Thompson be appointed a Com of one to waite upon the owners of the present building to know how long the Com may occupy the present room without charge.²]

On motion Geo R Ward,

Resolved That the Secretary be ordered to notify the members of the Vigilance Committee through the public press to hand over the moneys they have collected for the Jail fund to the treasurer.³

On motion of Capt Hutton

That the Committee now adjourn to meet again on Wednesday evening the 24 inst at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 o'clock.⁴

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary.

"Accepted"

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[List of Members]

[The following undated memorandum is attached to the papers of this date. It is, evidently, a list of names proposed for the Executive Committee but somewhat different from that copied in the book of proceedings.]

J W Cartwright

Dr Stout

J M Swift

White

G Ward

Jessup

Annan

Maynard

² The motion enclosed in brackets is from a draft of the minutes.

³ The following notice appeared in the San Francisco papers, September 19 to 25:

"Notice. Those members of the Vigilance Committee who have made collections for the 'Jail Fund' are hereby requested to pay over the same to E. Delessert, Esq. Treasurer, without delay; and members are also requested to hand their subscription lists to the Secretary before the 25th inst. as at that time a list of the donors will be published.

By order of the Executive Committee."

⁴ The following notice appeared in the papers of September 23:

"Notice. The Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance will hold a special Meeting at their rooms, over Messrs. Middleton & Smiley's at the corner of Sansome and Sacramento Streets, on Wednesday Evening, the 24th inst., at half past 7 o'clock, for the transaction of important business.

By order of the President
Secretary."

[September 17, 1851]

[September 17, 1851]

Smiley	B C Saunders
Cobb	Thompson
Huie	King of Wm
Kerichner	Darling
Teschmaker	C Griswold
Naglee	Hutton
Ryckman	N. Ward
Dillon	Gorham
Dewey	Delessert
Howard	Garwood
Argenti	Parrot
Case	
Payran	

[Resolution]

Mr Curtis

Moved that every member who has not handed in his list of Jail fund contribution be ordered to pass in his list, and \$30 if no more has been collected in Cash at the same time—

[Annotated:] Carried I Bluxome Jr

Secretary

[Notification of Election]

San Francisco Sept 17, 1851

E Delasaret Esq

Sir You were last evening elected a member of Executive Committee of Committee of Vigilance and are requested to meet at the Committee room at 12 o'clock at noon.

And are requested to state in writing whether you will serve or not.

By order of Genl Committee

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

late Secretary—

[Addressed:] E Delasaret Esq

Present

[September 17, 1851]

[Letters from Members Elected September 16]

Isaac Bluxome Jr Esq Secretary V. C.

Sir, Your communication of this day informing me of my election to the "Executive Committee", has been received.

I accept the honor conferred and remain

Respectfully

Yr Ob Svt

[Signed] Geo. R. Ward

Sept 17 1851.

To the Executive Comm^e of the Vigilance Comm^e

San Francisco Sept 17/51

Gentⁿ, Your note pr. Secy notifying me of my election as a member of the new executive Comm^e is at hand, for this mark of confidence on the part of the Vigilance Comm^e I return my acknowledgements & accept with pleasure the appointment—

Respy I am Yr Obt St

[Signed] John W Cartwright

[Addressed:]

To the Executive Committee of the Vigilance Committee

San Francisco

Mr I Bluxson Jr

I rec^d your note and will accept the appointment of one of the members of Ex Com^{te} and shall endeavor to do what may be required of me in the furtherance of the object

[Signed] J M Swift

San Francisco Sept 17, 1851

[Addressed:]

I Bluxson Jr Secty Vig Com^t

Isaac Bluxome Jr Esq

My dear Sir Your favor of this date has just been handed me.

Through you, I would beg to convey my thanks to the "Committee of Vigilance" for the honor they have conferred in selecting me as a member of the "Executive Committee" of their

[September 17, 1851]

body—Flattering as is this mark of your Esteem, I most respectfully must decline the position which has been assigned me—

With respect I am D^r Sir

Very truly yours

[Signed] J. Pratt Stephens

17th September /51

The undersigned begs leave to say he accepts the appointment as a member of the Executive Com^{te}

[Signed] Wm. H. White

Sanfrancisco 18th Sept 1851

[Addressed:]

To the President of the Vigatence committee

San Francisco Sept 17/51

To Sec^r

Dear Sir Your note informing me of my election as member of the Executive Committee is rec^d

Please tender my acceptance to the nominating Committee

Much oblige

Yours Respy

[Signed] W C Annan

San Fr^o. Sept 17, 1851.

To the Sec^r of the Vig^e Com^e of San Fr^o

Sir Being apprised that I am appointed a member of the Executive Committee of the Vigilance Committee under a new organization of that body which was formed last evening I have the honor herewith to accept the appointment, and return my thanks for the expression of confidence offered me [by] the Gentlemen composing the Committee

Very Respectfully Sirs

Your Ob^t Serv^t

[Signed] Arthur B. Stout

[Endorsed in pencil:]

R. W. Jessup

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1851

MINUTES

*Minutes of Executive Committee San Francisco**September 24 1851*

Mr. Stephen Payran in the Chair

Minutes of former meeting read and approved.

Thirty five members present

On motion of Mr. Cartwright

Resolved That a Committee of three be appointed by the Chair to obtain counsel for Mr F A Atkinson in the case of Metcalf vs Argenti Atkinson and als— The Committee are Mess. Jas B Huie F A Woodworth, & J W Cartwright.

The resignation of Cap't E Gorham was read and accepted to take effect on the first of the following month

On motion of G W Ryckman

George J. Oakes was elected to fill the vaceney occasioned by the resignation of Cap't E Gorham—to take his seat on the first of October.

On motion of Capt J F Hutton

Resolved That a Committee of three be appointed by the Chairman to nominate members for the Executive when vacencies occur—The Committee are Mess. G M Garwood, Chas L Case, & G W Ryckman.

On motion of Col Huie

Resolved That Mr. Oakley be employed to attend to the rooms of the Committee at 100.\$ pr month, and that George the porter be paid for his services to this time and discharged. “carried.”

On motion of Mr W T Coleman

Resolved That the Keeper of the rooms have charge of and keep them open day and night—and admit no member unless his dues and fines are paid. “carried.”

On motion of Mr F A Woodworth

Resolved That Mess Ralph S Dorr, George N Shaw and Chas Scholefield be admitted as members of the Vigilance Committee—Capt J F Hutton voted in the negative and desired that

[September 24, 1851]

his vote be recorded, All others in the affirmative. "They were declared elected."¹

On motion of Mr G W Ryckman

Resolved That a Committee of four be appointed by the Chair to waite upon the French Consul and Mr King the Collector of the port and obtain from them all the information possible about a vessel bound to this port from France, said to have on board about five hundred desperadoes. The Committee appointed were Mess F. Woodworth, F. Argenti, G. W. Ryckman, & Geo R Ward.

The Committee on by laws report that for want of time they have not been able to draw them up.

Mr. Charles L Case made a motion that the Committee have further time. "carried"

On motion Mr Bluxome

Mr. Geo R Ward was appointed to fill the vacancy in Committee on by laws, occasioned by the absence of Lieut Maynard. "carried"

The Committee on removal report that the lumber in former Committee Rooms was sold by Mess Blackburn & Thompson for the benefit of this Committee. "report accepted"

The Committee on furniture report—that all extra furniture was sent to Mess Cobb & Cos to be sold by them at Public Auction, and desire further time to complete sales. report accepted & further time granted.

Committee on rooms report, that they selected those over Mess Middleton & Smiley²—being central and less in price than any other, and had them arranged as convenient as possible for the members—and desired to be discharged. "report accepted, and Committee discharged"

The Treasurer of the Committee, Mr. Delesseret offered to

¹ Dorr signed as member 707 but the names of Shaw and Scholefield do not appear on the roll.

² Middleton and Smiley were auctioneers and commission merchants. The following notice appeared in the San Francisco papers from September 25 to October 11:

"Notice. The Committee of Vigilance Chambers have been removed to Messrs. Middleton & Smiley's building, corner of Sacramento and Sansome streets, and are open at all times, day and night, to the members, agreeably to the rules of the Association. By order of the Committee."

[September 24, 1851]

loan the Committee one thousand dollars for sixty days without interest, in order to pay the outstanding bills which was accepted with the thanks of the Committee and all bills ordered paid except those of the Council of Mr Atkinson in the suit of Metcalf vs Argenti Atkinson & Als

On motion of Mr Sam^l Dewey

That the Committee adjourn to meet again on Saturday Evening the 27 inst at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 o'clock

The following Gentlemen were elected to serve on the Executive Committee for 12 months

E Delesseret

J Delong

George R Ward

Jas C Ward

G M Garwood

T J L Smiley

R D Kinnay

J Kirchner

W D M Howard

Lieut L Maynard

Samuel Brannan

W^m W Thompson

F Woodworth

Jos Post

W A Darling

Jas M Swift

B C Saunders

H A Cobb

Ja^s Doves

Dr Stout

W C Annan

J S Parrott

The following were elected for six months

H M Naglee

Jas King of W^m

Ja W Cartwright

W Burling

S Payran

Sam^l Dewey

E Gorham

F Vassault

S E Woodworth

W T Coleman

R M Jessup

D Janvier [Janvrin?]

G W Ryckman

Jas B Huie

J Raynes

F Argenti

Chas L Case

I Bluxome Jr

W H White

H F Teschemacher

J F Hutton

Cha^s Griswold

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

"approved"

[September 24, 1851]

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Resignation of E. Gorham]

To the Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance

Gentlemen It is with regret that I am compelled to hand in my resignation as a member of your board. I am now making preparations to depart for the Atlantic States and shall probably leave on the 1st of next Month. Therefore, however much I should like to remain and take part in your future actions necessity compeles me to resign

With every hope for your welfare and a full and firm reliance on your discretion

I remain

Your Obt. Serv^t

[Signed] E. Gorham

San Francisco Sep^t 24/51

[Annotated:] As a member of Ex Com After the 1st of next month accepted

[Report]

To the Committee (Executive)

Gentlemen Your Committee appointed to draft Bye Laws for the future action of your Body

Report that owing to the shortness of the period, and the duties devolving on them or a portion of them, in the removal and disposal of the Committee property, the necessary arrangement of the New Rooms, and their own private duties have prevented them from meeting and discharging the trust confided to them

They therefore pray that they be discharged, or have leave to sit again

[Signed] S Payran

" G. W. Ryckman

San Francisco Sept 24/51

[Annotated:] "By Mr Chas Case" That Com have further time.

[September 24, 1851]

[Report]

To the Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance of
San Francisco

Gentlemen Your Committee report that the Lumber contained in the Old Executive Chamber, and Prisoner's room was privately disposed of by Mess Blackburn & Thompson at our instance and request, account sales of which have not yet been rendered

[Signed] S Payran
" H. A. Cobb
" E. Gorham

[Annotated:] "Accepted

[Report]

To the Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance of
San Francisco

Gentlemen Your Committee appointed by you to dispose of the effects belonging to said Committee report, that the annexed schedule contains all the goods and chattels that was thought necessary to dispose of, that they sent said goods to Mess Cobb & Co to be sold at Public Sale, the whole not having been disposed of, no account has yet been rendered, therefore your Committee report progress, with leave to proceed

[Signed] S Payran
" H. A. Cobb
" E. Gorham

[Annotated:] Accepted

Inventory of effects consigned Messrs Cobb & Co for sale

32 Mattresses

41 pr Blankets

64 Pillows

2 Tables

6 Small Tubs & 2 Large Tubs

20 Side Lamps complete

12 Candle sticks

1 Dimejohn & 1 Jug

$\frac{1}{2}$ bbl Hard Bread, $\frac{1}{2}$ Tub Butter—1 Tin Bucket cont^s Lard

2 Empty Oil Casks

[September 24, 1851]

- 1 Trunk & Contents
- 19 Window Curtains
- 1 Pitcher & Basin
- 2 Tin “
- 1 wooden Buckets
- 1 Small Looking Glass
- 1 Coffee Urn & Lamp
- 1 “ Pot
- 2 Tin Oil Cans
- 1 “ Pan
- 1 Lot Crockery Ware
- 6 Cups, 10 Saucers, 4 Dishes, 12 Mugs, 10 plates
- 12 Spoons
- 6 Broken Chairs
- 35 Benches

[*Report on Headquarters*]

To the Executive Committee of Vigilance Committee of San Francisco

Gentleman Your Committee respectfully report that agreeably to orders they proceeded to view and select rooms suitable for the future meetings of the Committee that they viewed those of White Brothers California Street Naglee's Building, and those of Middleton & Smiley of the three, they selected those of Middleton & Smiley on the ground of being central and convenient, and much cheaper in price, and Leased the same at fifty dollars per Month, and employed Mess Duff & Ryan Carpenters to remove Partition, arrange rostrum, Newspaper Desk Water Cask &c—also employed Mess Baker & Messerve to Paper the rooms, they asking within a few dollars as much to repair as to Paper³

They also purchased of Mess Gavitt & Co. Candelbra's⁴ for said rooms. at the price of eighteen dollars per sett, your Committee also retained the Matting on floors belonging to Mess Middleton & Smiley who agreed to charge the mere cost

³ See voucher No. 80, p. 791.

⁴ See voucher No. 91, p. 796.

[September 24, 1851]

J. S. Eagan was employed to do some Painting, the Bills for which items have not yet been presented, we therefore pray, if acceptable to you to confirm our Acts, and discharge us

Very respectfully Your Committee

[Signed] S Payran

" H. A. Cobb

" E. Gorham

San Francisco Sept 24/51

[Annotated:] Adopted "Accepted"

[Report]

To the Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco

Gentlemen Your Committee report, that the annexed schedule contains a list of all property thought necessary to reserve, for the use and benefit of the Vigilance Committee, and that the same are in possession of and duly arranged in the Rooms selected by us, and pray to be relieved

[Signed] S Payran

" H. A. Cobb

" E. Gorham

Francisco Sept 24/51

[Annotated:] Accepted

Inventory of effects reserved by the Executive Committee

15 Benches

Rostrum

Lot of Lumber

Files & Padlocks

Chairs, Ruffles & Padlocks

Salver & Looking Glass

Prs Chair, 2 Arm do & 30 common do

3 Tables & 1 Small Do

10 Lamps complete

30 Towels, Matches, &c.

Water Cask, fawet, Basin 2 Pitchers, 5 Tumblers

1 Tin pan—

1 Clock, Banner, Burglars Tools, Pistols &c

All Executive Furniture, Inkstands &c &c

[September 24, 1851]

We further present that the services of Mr Oakley late Sergeant at Arms, and Porter George were retained to assist in making and carrying the necessary arrangements of your Committee, for which they are entitled to pay, they have been attentively engaged in the discharge of their duty, and are now subject to your order

Some Persons unknown to your Committee have made donations towards decorating the rooms, whose names the late Sergeant at Arms should report, in order that the thanks of the Committee be rendered them

Our Worthy Secretary, I. Bluxome Jr has given much time and attention to the re-arrangement of our Committee Rooms, to whom the Sub Committee feel much indebted and recommend that the thanks of the Executive Committee be tendered him

The thanks of the Committee are also due to our Colleague Mr Cobb for the handsome silver Candelabra presented by him to Committee

[Signed] S Payran

" E. Gorham

[Annotated:] "Accepted

[Treasurer's Report]

Having in hand almost enough funds to pay at once all debts due by this committee and wishing for the honour of this committee to be allowed to pay them all at once

Mr Dellessert treasurer propose to advance one thousand dollars—for two months without Interest in order to give time to cash all dues & fines—but also provided said sum will be g[uar]antee by the Committee

Money received—since last meeting \$. 1061.50

[Signed] Eug Delessert

1st meeting San F^o 24 Sept Treasurer

[Endorsed:] Accepted except in regard to council fees in case of Argenti Atkinson & Als

[Communication from S. L. Dewey]

I understand that Persons have expressed great surprise at members of the Vigilance Committee Receiveing Donations from

[September 24, 1851]

Citizens of San Francisco. I beg leave to State that in no instance have I asked in the name of the Committee of Vigilance, but simply on my own responsibility and of such as I could ask, with the freedom of acquaintance & friendship and I have therefore given the names of those whom I Reed from & the am't.⁵

Respectfy [Signed] Sam L Dewey

[Report of Collector]

San Francisco Sept 24th 1851

Sirs,

I return to you the amount collected on my list, those whose names are marked not paid I have not seen for some time, they being Inspectors on board ships but shall in a few days, being unable in consequence of a severe fall to walk about. I shall not be able for [a] week to see them,

Very Respectfully

Your Ob^t Servant

[Signed] Bela Dexter (508)

Messrs E. Delessert, Legieron & Co

[Letter from Alex Kirchner]

Sanfrancisco 19 Sept 1851

Secretary Vigilance Committee

Sir In reply to your note of 17th inst I beg to state that I accept the appointment as a member of the Executive Committee

I am, dear S'rs

Yours &c

[Signed] Alex Kirchner

[Letter from Vigilance Committee of Stockton]

Stockton Sept 21/51

To the Vigilance Committee of Sanfrancisco

Gentlemen There is a Man On his way home by the name of Geo. Dewitt Who has Stolen Eight hundred Dolls. on Barns Creek he is in Size about 5 ft 10 inchs high about 50 years

⁵ A list reporting collections of \$277 is appended to this communication.

[September 24, 1851]

Old, Blk Hair, heavy Beard, Slightly Gray Wore when he left
Brown Hat, Red Shirt and was a little Lame in both ft, he has
been working fine Gold Gulsh, this is a very Indefinite descrip-
tion, but you may Identify him, going aboard the Steamers,
hoping he may be caught and brought to Justice, I Remain yours
Stockton V. C. p Sharps

[Addressed:]

Vigilence Committee
Sanfrancisco

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1851

MINUTES

*Minutes of Executive Committee San Francisco**Sept 27 1851*

Mr. Stephen Payran in the Chair.

Eighteen members present.

Minutes of former meeting read and approved.

The Committee on Bye Laws reported the following which
were approved.

Bye Laws of Executive Committee

First The *officers* shall consist of a *President, First and Second Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant at Arms* who shall all be elected for the period of six months.

Second *It shall be the duty of the President*, to preside at all meetings, to issue all orders emanating from the Committee, and to call special meetings when he shall deem the same necessary.

It shall be the duty of the *Vice Presidents* to officiate in the absence of the President.

It shall be the duty of the *Secretary* to keep a Journal of the proceedings of each regular meeting of the Executive Committee which shall be read before proceeding to business and amend or approve as may be deemed expedient. It shall also be his duty to collect the *dues and fines* to pay the same to the Treasurer and to report the sum collected at each stated meeting

[September 27, 1851]

[It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of the meetings, signed by President and countersigned by Secy and under the direction of the President, to take charge of the books & papers of the Committee of Vigilance. Not adopted¹]

It shall be the duty of the *Treasurer* to receive all moneys belonging to the Committee of Vigilance and to disburse the same by order of the Executive Committee, and to render his accounts at the expiration of each month or oftener if required by a vote of the Committee.

It shall be the duty of the *Sergeant at Arms* to take charge of the rooms and property of the Committee, to keep the same in order, to take charge of all prisoners, to serve notices, and to do and perform such other services as shall be required by the Committee.

Third That, there shall be a *Finance Committee* of five elected for six months to whom all accounts shall be referred, as well as other "Fiscal matters," and their report thereon shall be made to the Executive Committee for final action.

Fourth That, there shall be a *Qualification Committee* of five, elected for six months, whose duty it shall be to receive applications for membership to the Committee of Vigilance and to recommend the same to the Executive Committee for election, and also to recommend Candidates to fill vacancies that may occur in the Executive Committee.

Fifth That, the *Executive Committee* shall hold a stated meeting on *Wednesday* of each week.

Sixth That a *Quorum* for the transaction of business shall consist of *nine* members.

Seventh That it shall be the duty of the *President* to call a special meeting upon the written request of any *five members*.

Eighth *The seat of any member* of the Executive Committee shall be declared vacant, who shall absent himself from *three consecutive* stated meetings unless the Committee shall have been previously informed of his intended absence from the city, or other inability to attend, unless a reasonable excuse be given.

¹ The paragraph in brackets is from a draft of the by-laws.

[September 27, 1851]

Ninth *All Members* coming in after roll-call shall report themselves to the *Secretary*, or be deemed to have been absent.

Tenth *All reports of Committees and resolutions* offered shall be in writing.

Eleventh No member shall be allowed to speak more than twice, or longer than *five minutes*, upon any question, except by permission.

Twelfth *No change shall be made in the bye laws*, unless by a vote of *two thirds* of the members present of the Executive Committee, and by *one week previous notice* having been given in writing.

In section second, on the duty of Sergeant at arms, and on the third line, the words "to take charge of all prisoners" Cap't J F Hutton voted against, and desired that his vote should be recorded

Committee on By Laws, S Payran, G W Ryckman, Geo R Ward

The following is the report of a Committee who waited upon Mr Atkinsons lawyers in the suit of Metcalf vs Argenti Atkinson & Als

Your Committee appointed to engage legal counsel in behalf of Mr Atkinson. called on Mr E G Austin who stated that he intended to defend Mr Atkinson until his case should be disposed of finally waving all questions of compensation at present and leaving all pecuniary considerations in the discretion of the Committee. He also expressed a wish to conduct the case alone deeming additional counsel superlative in the present stage of the trial.

Committee J W Cartwright & F A Woodworth—

Report & services of Counsel accepted.

The Committee appointed by your honorable body to confer with the Collector of the Port & the Consul of France in regard to the apprended introduction into this State of foreign Convicts under the sanction and patronage of the French Government beg leave respectfully to,

[September 27, 1851]

Report that in fulfillment of the duties devolved upon them by your instructions they waited upon the Hon^{ble} T Butler King, made known to him the wishes of your body, and desired to be placed in possession of whatever information he possessed in regard to the subject in question.

Your Committee take great pleasure in stating that their wishes were at once cheerfully complied with as will be seen by the communications appended to this report. They would also state that the Collector expressed to them his sincere and ardent approval of the measures and the actions of the Committee of Vigilance and assured them that he would be most happy at all times to co-operate with them and to render them every aid and assistance in his power.

Your Committee also waited upon Mons Dillon the Consul of France and submitted to him the communication received from the Collector, and respectfully requesting him at the same time to make known to your Committee any facts or information he might possess in relation to the matter. The Consul assured your Committee that no apprehension need be entertained that the Government of France would sanction the shipment to this country of any of its convicted felons, that it had ever been foreign to their policy to do so, and that under the existing Constitution of the Republic, it would not be in the power of the Government to take any such action without the authority of some special Law for the purpose, and that no such law had ever been enacted. The Consul further states, that in all cases where vessels arrive from any port in France with passengers such passengers always come duly accredited by an Agent of the Government at the place of embarkation whose duty it is to strictly examine the credentials and passport of every passenger so embarking.

That he, the Consul, is furnished with an official copy of the Register, containing the name, birthplace, description and occupation of every such passenger, and upon the arrival of the vessel in this port he personally examines each passport and compares the same with the register referred to. He further states that if it be deemed a matter of expediency he will make the suggestion to his Government that all emigrants to California should be re-

[September 27, 1851]

quired to obtain the endorsement of their passports by the American Consul, at the port of embarkation, and he thinks such recommendation will be at once complied with. He also called the attention of your Committee to the orderly character and general good deportment of the present French population of California, and expressed his renewed assurances that his Government had never sanctioned the shipment to this state of any portion of their convicted felons. He further expressed to your Committee his willingness at all times to submit such documentary evidence to inspection, as may come in his possession, touching the character and description of passengers arriving from France at the Port of San Francisco.

That your Committee might obtain all the information possible in regard to a subject of so much importance to our Community, they likewise waited upon Mess Marziou & Co of this City, agents for the vessels which are to transport from France to this Country some 5000. French emigrants in the course of the coming year.

Mons Matthey,² the representative of the house explained to your Committee the nature and character of this extensive plan of emigration, and expressed his sincere belief that the class of passengers it comprehended would be a most valuable acquisition to our population, inasmuch as it would be chiefly composed of mechanics, laborers, and agriculturists, who while bettering their own condition in life, would add wealth to the Country by assisting to develop its resources.

Mons Matthey informed your Committee that he had been waited upon by the French Consul in regard to this matter and that he had since written a letter, which he submitted to them, addressed, to his correspondents in France, in which he alludes to the reports in circulation here, and urges upon them the necessity and importance of ascertaining the character and standing of every emigrant passenger, and forwarding the same in anticipation of their arrival. He further advises his correspondents of the existence of a powerful association styled the Committee of Vigilance who have combined together for the purpose of

² Henry Matthey. *Parker's Directory*, 1852.

[September 27, 1851]

ridding this community of all disreputable characters, and who he assures them have the determination and the power to carry out their views; as an instance of which he alludes to the fact of several criminals having been executed by them in the open day, where the authorities were powerless to interfere.

Collectors Office Custom House, San Francisco

25 of September 1851

F Argenti Esq.

Dear Sir I beg to forward to you an extract from a letter from John L Hodge Esq U S Consul at Marseilles relative to the departure from France, and arrival here, of a class of passengers very detrimental to the interests of this country

Very Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

signed. T. Butler King.

“Extract from a letter from Jno L Hodge Esq U S Consul at Marseilles under date of 28th April 1851.”

“In regard to passengers a great many are of the very worst class of desperadoes of Europe. I have *reason to believe* some sent at the expense of the Government. I should recommend your City Authorities to impose a heavy tax on *all* passengers from Europe and to suffer none to land who have not regular passports from their respective Governments with the visé of the U S Consul: it may be given gratis. If you permit all to land coming from Europe your Country will be filled by a worse than Italian Banditti. A French Merchant who sent a ship to your port told me he had realized, “A very great profit on the cargo,” and mentioned to me yesterday—“I have just received letters from San Francisco, a great many *malefactors* had arrived—in three vessels from this Country upwards of 500 passengers some of the great desperadoes &c.

Committee F Argenti, F A Woodworth, Geo R Ward, G W Ryckman. Report accepted and Committee discharged

[On motion Mr S E Woodworth³]

It was ordered that the foregoing report should be printed

³ The words in brackets are from a draft of the minutes.

[September 27, 1851]

The Committee on rooms [report] that they were presented with a pair candelabras from Mr. Cobb, and had returned one pair purchased from Mess Gavitt & Co. Report accepted & a vote of thanks to be sent to Mr. Cobb

On motion of S E Woodworth

Resolved That the Secretary make a copy of the bye laws and have them posted in the rooms. "carried."

On motion of G M Garwood:

Resolved That Selim E Woodworth be elected as first Vice President of the Executive Committee. "Mr. Woodworth was elected."

On motion of Jas C Ward

Resolved That Mr G W Ryckman be elected as second Vice President of the Executive Committee "Mr. Ryckman was elected."

On motion of Capt J F Hutton.

Resolved That the date of office of the members of the Executive Committee commence on the 17th of September. passed.

On motion of George R Ward

Resolved That Mr. Oakley be confirmed in the office of Sergeant at Arms. passed.

On motion of F Woodworth

Resolved That in future the hour for the meeting of the Executive Committee be at 8 o'clock. carried

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr.

Secretary.

Minutes of Ex Committee Sep't 27, 1851. Continued.

The following Gent were elected as the Finance Committee

George R Ward

E Delassert

L Maynard

Jas King of W^m

T J L Smiley

["Elected—and their election date on the 17th day of Sept—the day on which the Com of 5 made their report"]

[September 27, 1851]

The following Gent were elected as the Qualification Committee

Cap't Garwood

Chas L Case

G W Ryckman

Capt Hutton

Fred Woodworth

[Capt Garwood Capt Hutton Mr Darling Mr Dewey⁴]

A letter was received from Mr J H Jones in which he thanks the Committee for executing Stewart, Whitaker &—& states that he thinks his life was not safe while these men lived. ordered that the letter be placed on file.

A letter was received from Simon Heber desiring unlimited leave of absence. granted, agreeably to the rules of Committee

A Communication was received from Mr D J Thomas Jr in which he states that there is a report that about 10 days since Mr. John J McKaraher, a member of the Committee of Vigilance had been murdered at Contra Costa, and requests to know what action the Committee will take on the subject. It was ordered that the communication be placed on file.

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[The draft of the by laws is among the miscellaneous papers. Each article is annotated "Adopted," "Not adopted," "Amended" etc. It is prefaced by the following:]

To the Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance

Your Committee, to whom was assigned the duty of framing Bye Laws for the regulation of your body report the following which they respectfully submit

[Signed] S Payran Chⁿ

" G. W. Ryckman

" Geo R Ward

⁴ Listed first in the draft of the minutes, but crossed out. The names copied in the book of minutes are anoted "elected."

[September 27, 1851]

[Letter from J. H. Jones]

Stockton Sept 24th

To The Vigilance Committee of San Francisco

Gentlemen permit me to tender you my thanks for your untiring efforts in the capture and just execution of the three fellows Stewart Whiteker & [. . .] as no doubt it was the only cause of saving my life, for no one knows when the knife of the midnight Robber and assassin may be plunged in him in the dark. any assistance I can be to your Honorable body Command me and I am ever ready to obey. I am always ready to assist Justice, that she may not be cheated of her rights. I have this day ascertained that those three culprits on their examinations before you acknowledge they had all sworn to assassinate me for my killing of one of their comrades Jack Smith. Gentlemen receive my regards and well wishes for your continuance and prosperity

Yours respectfully

[Signed] J. H. Jones

[Annotated:] "Reed & placed on file"

[Addressed:]

To The Vigilance Committee

San Francisco

Deliver early

[Report of the Death of J. J. McKaraker]

To the Executive Committee

Gentlemen, About 10 days ago a report was current that one of our members (John J Mc Karaker) had been murdered at Contra Costa. On the 21st several of our members Captain Clark Maj Graham Ben Reynolds & one or two others crossed the Bay to ascertain the facts of the case. Two or three returned this morning & the others will return on Tuesday. The information obtained is very meagre but all appear to be satisfied that Mc K had been murdered and his body disposed of in some manner to conceal it. Mc K was traced to a Spanish drinking house & no clue whatever could be obtained of his having

[September 27, 1851]

left there—he had about \$150 on his person at the time of his disappearance⁵—

The above facts are given that the Committee may consider whether they will take any and if any what action on the subject

San Francisco Sep 27, 1851

[Signed] Daniel J. Thomas Jr

[Annotated:] placed on file

[Report]

To the Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance

Your Committee on removal &c respectfully report, that in consequence of the handsome presentation of Candlebra made by our friend Mr Cobb, we found that we had more fixtures for light than was necessary and therefore called on Mess Gavitt & Co from whom we had purchased two sets of Candlebra and politely requested that they would take back one set, which request they acceded to, and one set was returned, and the sum of Eighteen dollars (price to be paid) deducted from the bill

[Signed] S Payran

[Annotated:] Accepted vote of thanks to Mr Cobb

[Report]

To the Executive Committee Of the Committee of Vigilance

Gent Herewith we beg to tender you a detailed a/c of the goods and prices at which sold—by Mess Cobb & Co belonging to this Committee.

And herewith also you have a receipt of the Treasurer for net proceeds, two hundred & forty seven 63/100 dolls. And further that Mess Blackburn & Thompson have paid over to the Treasurer the nett proceeds of sale of lumber.

And beg to be discharged—

[Signed] Stephen Payran

Chair^m.

[Annotated:] Capt Gorham, absent.

⁵ The editor can find no confirmation of this report.

[September 27, 1851]

[Letter from Simon Haber]

To the Ex commtt. of the com. of Vigilance

The undersigned begs for a unlimited leave of absence, as
Business calls him to Panama on the 1 of October.

With great respect

[Signed] Simon Haber

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Sept 24th, 1851

[Annotated:] "granted agreeable" to the rules

[Addressed:]

Executive commt of com. of Vigilance

Report of Collector

A. J. Cornell in acct with the Committee of Vigilance
Dr.

To Dues Collected	205	
" Subscriptions Cash and bills	1049	\$1254"

Cr.

By E Delesserts Receipts	205"	
" " " " " "	1000	
" Receipted bills	49	\$1254"

E E Sanfrancisco Sept 27th 1851.

A. J. Cornell Collector

[Annotated:] "referred to finance Com"

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1851

MINUTES

*Minutes of Special Meeting of Executive Committee**Sept 30. 1851*

Mr. Stephen Payran in the Chair.

Thirteen members present.

[At a Special Meeting of a Quorum of said Executive held

[September 30, 1851]

at 12 O'clock M. of this day, present, The President, Secretary and the following Members,

Stephen Payran Pres't

H M Naglee

Selim E Woodworth

F A Woodworth

George R Ward

R M Jessup

T J L Smiley

G W Ryckman

J W Cartwright

James M. Swift

F Vassault

W H White

Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary.

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the Chair¹—]

A letter was read from Col Geo W White desiring unlimited leave of absence, as he was about leaving the State. Request was granted, and a letter of thanks was given him for past services.

A communication was received from Mr G W Ryckman stating, that there was now in this City a Mexican who had committed seven murders, one of which was committed last week, and that he was about to leave the City, and desired that he be arrested. It was decided by the Committee that they had no power to make an arrest, and after some argument Mr Rikeman withdrew the motion.

On motion of Mr S Payran

Resolved That a meeting of the general [committee] be called for to-morrow evening Oct 1, at 8 o'clock. passed

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Letter from G. W. White*]

San Francisco, Sept 29th 1851

To the Officers & Members of the Executive Committee of Vigilance

Gentlemen. As I feel it imperatively my duty to repair to the Atlantic Side as soon as possible, and as I have made my arrangements to leave by the Steamer *New Orleans* on Wednes-

¹ The paragraphs in brackets are from a draft of the minutes.

[September 30, 1851]

day evening, I would respectfully ask from you an unlimited leave of absence.

In parting with you, gentlemen, allow me to assure you that my warmest sympathies and kindest wishes are with you; and that I shall ever remember the kindly relations which have existed between us since I had the honor of becoming associated with you.

Wishing you all success in your laudable exertions to *do good*, all I will add is—*Be Just and Fear Not*.

Ever your friend

Geo. W. White.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee San Francisco

Oct 1. 1851

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the Chair.¹

Mr S Payran read two communications, one dated Sept 30. and one dated Oct 1. from Mr E G Austin in which he declined going on with the suit of Metcalf vs Argenti Atkinson & Als without sufficient remuneration.

On motion of Cap't Hutton.

The Communications were referred to a special committee whose duty it should be to obtain council for Mr Atkinson provided, the charge was not over five hundred dollars, and it is ordered that the Committee shall report at a Special Meeting to be called through the press for to-morrow evening. Committee are F Woodworth, J W Cartwright & J F Hutton

On motion

Resolved That a special meeting be called for to-morrow evening at 8 o'clock through the public press.²

¹ The draft of the minutes reads: "Mr. Payran in the chair. Mr. Selim Woodworth was called to the chair."

² The papers of October 1 published the following:
"Notice. The members of the Committee of Vigilance are requested to meet at the store of Messrs. Middleton & Smiley, corner of Sacramento

[October 1, 1851]

On motion

Resolved That the President of this Committee write to the President of the Santa Clara Committee informing him of the change of venue in the suit against Mess Argenti, Atkinson & Als, desiring him to render what assistance he can in order to gain the suit. passed

A Select Committee from General Committee waited upon the Executive Committee and informed them that the meeting below had been called to order and desired to know what reports, or if there were any to be made to the General Committee. The President by order of Ex. Committee informed the special Committee that they would report in 10 minutes

On motion of T J L Smiley:

Resolved That the Executive Committee recommend to the general committee, That they give the Ex Committee power to make arrests.³

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Resolution]

On motion of Mr F. A Woodworth

Resolved That the Executive Committee have power to arrest criminals and hand them over to the authorities, with discretion to detain any such prisoners as may be charged with and Sansome streets, This Evening, at 8 o'clock. Members are requested to be punctual.

By order of Executive Committee.

S. E. Woodworth, Vice President.

I. Bluxome, Jr. Secretary."

On October 2 the following appeared:

"Notice. The Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance will meet in their chambers This Evening, at 8 o'clock.

By order of the Committee.

Stephen Payran, President.

I. Bluxome, Jr. Secretary."

³The *Alta California*, October 1, reported that "a new case had arisen" in the Vigilance Committee, "and the Executive Committee desire to know how far their delegated powers extended." The undated resolution, offered by F. A. Woodworth, and amended by Gerry of the General Committee, appears to refer to the action taken at this time.

[October 1, 1851]

the crime of incendiarism, and refer their cases to the action of the General Committee.—

[Annotated:] Amended by Dr Geary Or any other heinous crime

Adopted

[*Resolution*⁴]

WHEREAS an article has appeared in the *Evening Picayune* of this day stating that "the Vigilance Committee had ceased active operation & in consequence of the general condemnation of the Commercial papers in the Atlantic States," therefore

Resolved, that the Committee cause to be published in the various papers of this city, that they hold themselves ready for action, should the Community be again situated as at the time of the organization of said Committee & that no comments of any newspaper can drive them from a conscientious discharge of their duty to their families & fellow Citizens

Presented by N^o 18 [C. R. Bond]

[Annotated:] Adopted

[*Letter from E. G. Austin Metcalf vs. Argenti*]

San Francisco Sept 30th 1851

Stephen Payran Esq

Ch^m of the Executive Committee of the Vigilance Committee

Sir. By the decision of the Justices of the Superior Court of this City, the venue in the case of Peter Metcalf v^s Felix Argenti & F A Atkinson has been changed to the County of Santa Clara, the trial will probably take place at San José in the course of the ensuing month.⁵

It is proper for me to say to the Com' of Vigilance through you that this order of the Court will entail heavy expenses on the Defendants in procuring the attendance of such of their

⁴ This resolution appeared in the San Francisco papers, October 2 to 5. It was subscribed: "By order of the general Committee. San Francisco, October 1, 1851. S. Payran, President of Ex. Committee. Isaac Bluxome, Jr. Secretary."

⁵ The case was tried before the District Court of Santa Clara County, December 2 to 5, with a verdict of \$201 and costs, for the plaintiff. *S. F. Herald*, December 8.

[October 1, 1851]

witnesses as are willing to appear in person at the trial, or in taking the depositions of those who cannot attend, or in taking certified copies of the testimony given at the former trial. No witness residing in this County can be compelled to attend at San José.

I beg leave also to add, that it will give me pleasure to attend this case to its close, and to render all possible aid to relieve the Defendants from the burthen sought to be imposed on them, but as under the present state of the case, I shall be required to leave all other business for an indefinite length of time I cannot in justice to myself further prosecute the defence without funds for necessary expenses, and a certain and adequate remuneration for my own services.

With great respect I remain

Yr Obt Sv

[Signed] E G Austin

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee Oct. 2^d 1851

Mr L Maynard in the chair

On motion of Selim E Woodworth:

Resolved That in the matter of Counsel in the case Atkinson, that the whole subject be referred to special committee with power to act. carried.

Cap't Hutton withdrew from special committee on lawyers for Mr Atkinson, and Capt H M Naglee was appointed to fill the vacancy

On motion of S E Woodworth Esq

Mr. F Argenti was added to committee for the purpose of selecting counsel for Mr. Atkinson.

The Finance Committee made the following report.

The Committee of Finance of the Committee of Vigilance have great pleasure in herewith handing a report of the Treasurer

[October 2, 1851]

which includes the payment (with a few exceptions) of all the claims upon the Committee of Vigilance up to the adjournment on the 16th of September last, which report shows a balance on hand in favor of the Committee of \$236.²⁹/₁₀₀. A few claims remain unsettled and will be handed over to the Finance Committee appointed under the Bye Laws adopted on the 30th ultm^o for farther information. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

signed George R Ward

L Maynard

E Delessert, Treasurer.

Report accepted, and placed on file

The Committee to whom was refered the subject of selecting counsel to defend Mr F A Atkinson in the case of Metcalf vs Argenti Atkinson & Als beg leave to make the following report.

That your Committee called upon Col Weller and stated to know upon what terms he could be employed to defend the suit until its termination, he stated that he would with pleasure undertake the suit and inasmuch that proceedings in the case might occupy much of his time and require his absence from this City for an indefinate time he would charge Eight hundred dollars and present three hundred dollars as a contribution to the funds of the Vigilance Committee.

Your Committee did not close with Col Weller but prefered to submit this matter to your hands. All of which is respectfully submitted.

signed J F Hutton

Chairman

San Francisco Oct. 2. 1851

On motion of George R Ward Esq:

Resolved That the Sergeant at Arms receive 150.\$ pr month from the 17th of September, for his services. carried

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee October 8th 1851

Mr G W Ryckman in the Chair.

A petition was presented by Mr S Payran, from Andrew Goodwin, praying the Committee of Vigilance to send to Marysville and recover her child, kept from her by force by Mr & Mrs Kohle.¹

On motion of Mr Payran

Resolved That a copy of the petition be sent to the Committee of Vigilance of Marysville—together with a letter from this Committee, requesting them to attend to this case passed

On motion of Mr Selim E Woodworth

Resolved That the discussion now before the Committee, (relating to Counsel for Mr Atkinson) be laid upon the table, and, that the Special Committee appointed to obtain counsel for Mr Atkinson hold their seats until the case is disposed of. passed

On motion of Mr F Argenti

Resolved That the Secretary transmit a copy of the Constitution & Bye laws of the Vigilance Committee to the Committee of Vigilance of San José. passed

On motion of S E Woodworth

Resolved That the Sergeant at Arms be allowed to attend the Suit of Metcalf vs Argenti Atkinson & Als now pending before the Court at San José. passed.

On motion of

Resolved That a standing advertisement be placed in the City papers, stating the time of meeting of the Executive Committee²

¹ Goodwin claimed that his niece, Mary Lye, had been abducted by the Kohles and placed in a house of ill-fame in Marysville. Stephen Payran was immediately sent to that town, and with the assistance of the local Committee of Vigilance he rescued the little girl and restored her to her relatives. *S. F. Herald*, October 17. See also p. 695.

² The following notice appeared in the San Francisco papers, October 13 to 15:

“Committee of Vigilance. The Executive Committee will meet in their rooms (Nos. 6 and 7, Middleton & Smiley's Building) at 8 o'clock

[October 8, 1851]

On motion

Resolved, That the Secretary send a copy of the Eighth Article of the Bye laws to the absent members of this committee and advise them that unless they shew some cause why their seats should not be declared vacant by Wednesday evening next, they will be so declared vacant—and new members elected to fill the vacancy.

On motion of Mr. G M Garwood

It was resolved that the Secretary receive 100\$ pr month for his services passed

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Case of Mary Lye]

I have enquired into the character of the petitioner, Andrew Goodwin from his neighbors, who all give him a good character for sobriety and honesty— And I believe the Statement as set forth in his petition are true

[Signed] George M Garwood

San Francisco Oct 8th 1831

[Annotated:] A copy of petition to be sent

[Report on Absent Members]

By request of the President of this Committee I make the following report—

That Capt W D M Howard & Mr L D Kinnay have never been present at the meetings of this body, and that Messrs Saml Brannan, W T Coleman, F Vassault, J S Parrott, Jas Post, W^m W Thompson have been present at the first meeting only

[Signed] I Bluxome Jr
Secretary

[Annotated:] Will be despatched between this and Monday morning—

[Signed] D. L Oakley
Sergeant at Arms

P. M. on Wednesday, the 15th inst. and at the same hour every Wednesday until further notice.

By order Isaac Bluxome, Jr., Sec'y Executive Committee."

[October 8, 1851]

[Resignation of Isaac Blurome, Jr.]

San Francisco Oct 8, 1851

To the Executive Committee of Committee of Vigilance

Gent I beg leave to resign my seat as Secretary of your body as I cannot afford to spend so much of my time as I am compelled to as secretary.

Respectfully, your Obt. Servt

[Signed] I Blurome Jr

[Annotated:] Accepted

On motion of Mr Garwood

Resolved—That the secy receive 100\$ pr month for his services

 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee October 15, 1851

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the Chair

Minutes of former meeting read and approved

A report was received from Mr S Payran (committee of one) sent to Marysville by this Committee to recover the child of one Andrew Goodwin held from him by force by Mr & Mrs Kohle setting forth the trouble attending and the final delivery of the child to its guardians.

A Communication was received from Mr John Parrott stating that it is impossible for him to attend the meetings of the Executive Committee and desiring that his name shall be stricken from the roll. Accepted.

A Communication was received from Mr W D M Howard desiring that his name be stricken from the roll of the Executive Committee as it is impossible for him to attend its meetings.

The Treasurer reports that he has on hand belonging to this [Committee] the sum of 217.³³/₁₀₀ \$.

The following addition to the bye laws was proposed by Mr Charles L Case.

[October 15, 1851]

According to provision of Section 12th of Bye laws of Executive Committee, I propose a new section to be as follows. That a fine of two dollars be imposed on absentees from all regular meetings sickness and absence from town being the only excuses

[Annotated on margin:] Lost Oct 22^d

Mess N Miller & Jas F Curtis were proposed as members of the Executive Committee by Col Jas B Huie. J C L Wardsworth was proposed by G W Ryckman. Jas Murray was proposed by Jas De Long.

On motion of G W Ryckman.

The subject relating to the filling of vacancies by election be referred to the next regular meeting.

On motion of Mr Jas B Huie

Resolved That this Committee take immediate steps to ascertain the whereabouts of Briggs & Osman and when found to arrest them. carried.¹

On motion of Mr Payran

Resolved That a Committee of three be appointed to wait upon Mr King the Collector of the port and get the necessary papers to search the vessels, the Bark *Francis* & Brig *Genl Cobb*.

On motion The Committee adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Complaints of Robberies*]

October 10. 1851

W H Stevens. On the night of the eighth of Oct my store was entered from the rear door and my desk robbed of 1370.\$ mostly in Moffats 50\$ pieces—an attempt was made to cut the lock out of the desk in which the money was placed. Afterward

¹It was reported in the *Herald* and the *Alta* of October 17, that a number of Sydney people, including Briggs and Osman, with valuable plunder, were supposed to have left San Francisco a few nights earlier, on a vessel bound for Australia, and that the Committee hired a tug and vainly attempted to overhaul them. See vote on the bill for coal for steam tug *Firefly*, p. 720.

[October 15, 1851]

the[thief] searched one of the mens pockets and found the key to the lock & opened the desk and took the money.

Burlin Brown. On Friday night last at about $\frac{1}{4}$ past 3 in the morning my wife and self awoke by two men or more in conversation—foreigners by their tongue, how long they had been there we could not tell, one was damning the other, for not trying the back door and asked him—damn you have you forgotton how to rob? before he answered he told him not to speak so loud, and answered that he would try it again and with that he moved off in the rear of my house where foreigners lived, as they moved off my dog commenced barking and they said no more

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee Oct 22. 1851

Mr Stephen Payran in the Chair.

Minutes of former meeting read and approved

On motion of Selim E Woodworth

Resolved That the letter now in possession of this Committee from Thos Keys alias T Belcher Kay directed to Stephen Whipple, be refered to a Committee of three, for further examination, and that said Committee dispose of it as they think best.¹ The Committee are F Argenti, S E Woodworth & S Payran

The Committee granted leave of Absence to Samuel Brannan & W C Annan.

On motion of F Argenti

Resolved That a Committee of five be appointed from this body, by the Chairman, to act as a Judiciary Committee, whose duty it shall be to inquire into the acts of the various Judges on our benches. The Committee appointed are F Argenti, J F Hutton, S E Woodworth, E Delasert, & H A Cobb.

On motion of F Woodworth

Resolved That the Finance Committee be authorized to

¹ The *S. F. Herald*, October 6, stated that Kay had been seen in Honolulu early in September, en route for Tahiti. The letter mentioned is missing.

[October 22, 1851]

purchase a safe for the use of this Committee and that the Secretary shall keep the books and papers in it, and that the Secretary and Treasurer shall each have a Key.²

Mr J C L Wardsworth was elected a member of this Committee in the place of Capt W D M Howard to serve for a period of 12 months from the 17th of September last.

Mr. Geo H Howard was elected a member of this Committee in the place of Mr J S Parrott, resigned, to serve for 12 months from the 17th of Sept.

A Communication was received, dated at Mokelumne Hill and signed by N B setting forth that there is one James Watkins now at work at that place, of bad character and states that he gives this information merely on account of his rascally treatment of his wife. The Communication was laid upon the table.

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Special Meeting of Executive Committee Oct 27

Mr G W Ryckman in the Chair.

The Chairman stated that the meeting was called in consequence of the Death of Mr George J Oakes a member of this Committee; and the object of the meeting to call the members of the General Committee out on the day of his funeral.

On motion of Mr Woodworth

Resolved That a call be made through the public press for the members of the General Committee to assemble at the chambers of the Executive Committee on Wednesday morning the 29 inst to attend the funeral of Mr Geo J Oakes.¹

² See entry No. 93, p. 759.

¹ The following notice appeared in the San Francisco papers, October 28 and 29.

“Committee of Vigilance.—At a meeting of the Executive Committee

[October 27, 1851]

On motion of Mr Woodworth

Resolved That should there be one hundred members present at the Committee rooms, the banner of the committee shall be carried in the procession.

On motion of Mr De Lassert

Resolved That the Sergeant at Arms be directed to procure crape for the use of the members on the 29th inst.

On motion of Capt J F Hutton

Resolved That the members of Committee of Vigilance wear the usual badge of mourning for 30 days

On motion of Mr DeLassert

Resolved That a Committee of conference be appointed to confer with the various committees of which Mr Oakes was a member, and to make the necessary arrangements for the procession. The committee appointed are J W Cartwright, F C Ewer Saml Taylor, D J Thomas Jr

On motion adjourned

Chas Griswold
Secretary pro tem

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1851

MINUTES

October 28. 1851

There was no meeting this day, as there was not a quorum present.

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

of the Committee of Vigilance, held in their rooms on the evening of Monday, 27th Oct. inst., it was on motion unanimously

Resolved, That this Committee has learned with deep and sincere regret of the sudden demise of their much esteemed fellow member George J. Oakes.

Resolved, That the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco, will attend in a body, the funeral of the deceased, and will wear the usual badge of mourning on the left arm.

Resolved, That the rooms of the Committee be draped in mourning for the period of thirty days, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

Resolved, That a letter of condolence be addressed to the family of the deceased, together with a copy of these resolutions.

In accordance with the above resolutions, the Committee of Vigilance will assemble at the committee rooms at the tolling of the bell, Wednesday morning, 29th inst. at nine o'clock, for the purpose of participating in the funeral solemnities to be tendered the deceased.

By order of the Executive Committee."

[October 28, 1851]

[Plan of Reorganization¹]

Resolved, That hereafter the General Committee shall meet on the 1st Mondays of March & September in each year, and also whenever they shall be called together by two taps of the bell or by a published notice by the President and Secretary of the Executive Committee

Resolved, That no person shall be admitted to the rooms or meetings of the Committee if he is 20 days in arrears for dues

Resolved, That at each stated meeting of the Gen. Com. twenty two members shall be elected for the Executive Committee who shall hold office for one year. All elections shall be by ballot, and the Exec. Com shall appoint 3 tellers to conduct the election. The polls shall be open two hours.

The present Ex. Com. shall hold their seats for the respective times for which they have been elected.

Resolved, That the Ex. Com shall fill all vacancies occurring in its body and shall appoint its own officers, none of whom except the Secretary & Sergeant at Arms, shall receive any compensation. The Secretary shall not receive more than \$100 nor the Sergeant at Arms more than \$150 per month

Resolved, That the Exec. Com. shall have power

- 1st To inquire into, and take evidence regarding, all kinds of crime & all malfeasance in office
- 2nd To order & make arrests
- 3rd To make assessments
- 4th To make all bye-laws and orders necessary or proper to carry out the provisions of this act.
- 5th To appoint a Sergeant at Arms, Chief of Police and Marshal if they see proper so to do, also to define duties of their respective stations.

Resolved, That the Exe. Com shall take all testimony in writing, & read a synopsis thereof at the first meeting of the General Com; they shall not destroy mutilate, or in any manner make way with any of the Books, Papers, or Archives of the

¹ These resolutions are in the handwriting of D. J. Thomas, Jr. and although they bear no endorsement to show that they were submitted to the Committee, they give interesting hints of the problems of the period. The concluding resolution shows that it was presented in October.

[October 28, 1851]

General Com, or of their own body, but shall place the same in charge of their Secretary to be by him safely & securely kept; they shall not expend for all purposes exceeding \$500 per month; they shall not have power to close the rooms of the Committee against any person entitled to admission to the meetings of the Gen. Com., except during the time the Ex. Com is in actual session for business

Resolved, That at each stated meeting of the General Com. the Exe. Com. shall cause to be read a detailed statement of the receipts & expenditures of the preceeding 6 months.

Resolved, That so much of the Constitution or report of the Committee of 5 passed on the 17 ult. as is altered or supplied herein be and the same is hereby repealed

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee November 5. 1851

Mr G W Ryckman in the chair

Minutes of former meeting read and approved

Mr Argenti as chairman of Judiciary committee reported that his committee were watching the course of the Judges but as yet have no report to make.

The Committee appointed to write a letter of condolence to the Mother of Mr Geo J Oakes report that they have sent a copy of the following, by the last Steamer.

San Francisco Oct 29. 1851

To Mrs Oakes

Boston

Dear Madam In accordance with the tenor of the accompanying. Resolutions passed at a special meeting of the Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance, and in behalf of the Gentlemen composing that committee it becomes our melancholy duty to address you on a subject of deep and painful interest. We would extend to you as the afflicted parent of our

[November 5, 1851]

deceased brother, *George J Oakes*, the kindest sympathies of our hearts, under this mournful dispensation, and express the feelings of unmitigated sorrow and regret experienced by every member of our association, for the loss of one whose many virtues had so entwined him in our affections. We can keenly appreciate the anguish of a Mothers heart under circumstances so peculiarly painful as the present, for most of us are still blest with the holy influence of a Mothers love, though far removed from the homes of our Childhood, and we feel it will be a source of consolation to you in your season of grief and sorrow to learn that the dying hours of your departed son were soothed by the kind attentions of warm and devoted friends, and that the last tribute of respect was paid to his remains by a long train of mourners, comprising nearly the whole business population of San Francisco. Our connection with your son as fellow members of the Committee of Vigilance has been one of peculiar interest. At a time when anarchy reigned in our community, and there was no protection for the lives or property of our citizens from the torch of the incendiary, our lamented friend was among the first to come forward and join with his fellow citizens in the cause of mutual safety, and though none regretted, more sincerely than he did himself, the unfortunate necessity which compelled us to act, none were more vigilant or untiring in the performance of the duties which devolved upon us. Regretting his loss, as we all sincerely do, the pleasing duty remains to us of awarding to his memory the true meed of praise which so justly belongs to it.

As a Merchant, he was respected for his honesty, uprightness and strict integrity. As a friend, he was beloved for his sincerity, generosity and unwavering fidelity, and as a citizen of San Francisco he was universally esteemed by all who knew him

“Green be the turf above him,

Friend of our better days:

None knew him but to love him

None named him but to praise.”

In conclusion Dear Madam, allow us to express to you the assurances of our individual regard and esteem, and that the Great ruler of the Universe may ever watch over protect, and

[November 5, 1851]

comfort you, in this and all other trials and tribulations is the fervent prayer of

Your very Obs Servants

Fredk A Woodworth

S E Woodworth

J F Hutton

In behalf of the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco

On motion of F A Woodworth

Resolved That a Committee of two be appointed to waite upon the various Fire Companies and ascertain whether the Committee of Vigilance can have the use of their bells, to call the Committee together. Committee J C L Wardsworth, G M Garwood

On motion of Cap't Garwood

Resolved That Counsel be employed by this committee to defend the members of this committee in the suit of Metcalf vs George Mellus, F A Woodworth, Thomas McCahill, Daniel Oakley, Charles Brinley & George E Schenck.

On motion of I Buxome Jr

Resolved That Mr Elisha Cook be employed by this Committee to defend the members of the Committee and that he receive \$500. dollars for the defence, at the termination of the suit.

On motion of Mr I Bluxome Jr

Resolved That a Committee of three be appointed by the Chairman to waite upon Mr Cook informing him of his appointment as counsel to defend the six members now being sued by Metcalf and that he is to receive 500 dollars for the same at the termination of the suite. The Committee are Jas De Long, F A Woodworth and Isaac Bluxome Jr

Mr Geo R Ward desired to have the permission of this committee to state to Mr Burritt, that this committee were informed by Mr Sam'l Brannan that he, Judge Burritt voluntarily tendered his services to this Committee to defend Mr Atkinson in the suit of Metcalf vs. Argenti, Atkinson & Als gratuitously, permission granted.

Dr A B Stout requested permission of this Committee to refer to the books & papers now on file. granted.

[November 5, 1851]

On motion of Col Huie

Resolved That all vacencies in the Executive Committee be filled at its next regular meeting. carried

On motion of Dr A B Stout

Resolved That the bill of Mr A J Ellis against this committee for travelling expenses to Marysville[. . .]¹

On motion of Mr I Bluxome Jr

Resolved That the Secretary be authorised to collect the dues for November. carried

A letter was received from Mr Stephen Payran desiring to resign his seat in the Executive Committee and requests leave of absence from General Committee for six months with remittance of dues & fines. The communication was referred to a committee of two who should waite upon Mr Payran and ascertain the cause of his resignation Committee are Mr F Woodworth, & Jas B Huie

The resignation of Mr George H Howard was received and accepted.

D J Thomas Jr. chairman of committee appointed to confer with corresponding committees of which Mr Oaks was a member to make the necessary arrangements for funeral procession.

Report that they met the other committees & in connection with them appointed S E Woodworth Chief Marshall of Com of Vigilance with F C Ewer & Saml Taylor Esqrs as aids and that they provided three horses & three scarfs for the Marshall & Aids

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Resignation of Stephen Payran]

San Francisco Oct 27th 1851

To the Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance of
San Francisco

Gentlemen Owing to the cares incident to my business, and the longer active service of our Committee, being at an end com-

¹ The following unreceipted bill is found among the papers of the treasurer:

[November 5, 1851]

bined with other causes, induces me to respectfully ask of your body to accept my resignation as President of your board, and member of the Executive Committee, I also pray you to grant me leave of absence as Member of the General Committee for six months, with remittance of Dues and fines—

Permit me to say that I look back with pleasure on the good that you have effected, and earnestly hope that the present peace safety and happiness of our Community may long continue

With sentiments of high Esteem

believe me Truly Your Obdt Servt

[Signed] Stephen Payran

[Annotated:] Refer'd to Com of two Mr F Woodworth
Col Jas B Huie

[Resignation of G. H. Howard]

San Francisco October 29th 1851

Stephen Paran Esq^{re} Prest of the Executive of the Vigilance
Committee

Sir I received through the Sect^y of your Honorable body, notice of my election, at your last meeting, as one of your members—

Although highly appreciating the honor you have done me, I find it will be impossible for me to serve, one of my partners being about to absent himself from the city, and the other—connected with the Executive—

San Francisco, July 31st, 1851

Vigilance Committee to A. J. Ellis, Turner & Maloney

Cr. To Travelling Expenses to & from Marysville

by order of the Executive Committee

Dr. By Turner, July & Aug dues

“ Maloney “ “

“ Ellis “ “

\$150.00

\$10

5

5

20.00

\$130.00

30.00

for Jail funds

\$100.00

Reduced, as per consent, to

\$75.00

[November 5, 1851]

Should any occasion call us again into active service I trust
always to be found at my post—

With great respect I remain

Yr Obt St

[Signed] Geo H Howard

[Annotated:] resignation

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1851

MINUTES

Special Meeting of Executive Committee Nov 11. 1851

Mr G W Ryckman in the chair

[James Dows—corner of Commercial & Montgomery sts.

Dr. A. B. Stout

James M. Swift

G. M. Garwood

I Bluxome Jr

T. J. L. Smiley

R M Jessup

J. W. Cartwright

G W Ryckman ¹]

This meeting was called together in consequence of a man by the name McLean being stabbed by one Antonio Gonzales in the Mississippi House on Long wharf. After a patient investigation of the case it was

[On motion of Capt Garwood¹]

Resolved That Gonzales should be handed over to the City Marshall as it appeared that it was a case of a quarrel with the name of the witnesses &c

On motion of Mr Argenti

Resolved That a receipt be taken for the prisoner from the Capt of Police carried

On motion adjourned

[Signed] I Bluxome Jr

Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

Case of Antonio Gonzales

James Murray,² being duly sworn says— I was coming down Long Wharf this evening about ½ past 5 to 6 O'clock &

¹ The portion enclosed in brackets is from a draft of the minutes.

² V. C. No. 345.

[November 11, 1851]

when passing the Mission House, I saw a large mob of people opposite the house.— The knife I took from the Bar Keeper is the knife now before me— I placed this identical knife in the possession of the Vigilance Committee— I know no further facts of my own knowledge, other than seeing the man that was robbed and the wounds. I arrested Antonio at the request of a great number of persons.—There was no Police Officer in that vicinity that I know of or heard of.— The prisoners told me had stabbed a man for calling him “a son of a b—h”

Pablo de la Maza, being duly sworn says I was born in Spain, at San Ander I was born in 1826, have been in New Orleans 14 years, have ben here one year last September, I keep the Mississippi house on Long Wharf, Antonio Gonzales is head Cook in my house, I was at a table at the time Antonio stabbed Mac I saw Mac go over the table, I heard Chase & Mac call Antonio a son of a b—h, Antonio said dont call me a son of a b—h, Antonio then took a piece of wood, I told Antonio to throw down the wood, that the men were drunk and did not know what they said, they then kept quiet about 2 seconds, they had had their supper and most all of the men had left the table, Chase then called Antonio a son of a b—h again, and threw a knife at Antonio, Antonio then took a piece of wood again, Mac then went round the table towards Antonio— When Antonio saw Mac & Chase get up from the table he took his knife, they came together and Mac took hold of Antonio, and Antonio stabbed him, Mac has one wound in the right breast, and a cut on one of his hands MacClean was drunk, at the time.

Antonio has been in my employment about 3 months, he is not liked in the house. Last Sunday Chase said to me I am going to loose the dog in the yard. My boarders have been complaining for the last 10 days about this man Antonio I have known M^cLean about since last June, I have never known M^cLean to have been drunk but twice, he has a good temper About 8 days since Mac Lean & Antonio had some words together

[Signed] Pablo de la Maza

San Francisco Nov 11 1851

[November 11, 1851]

Joseph Madill, *sworn* says, I was born in Troy state of New York. Age 25 years next July. am a bar keeper in the Mississippi house on Long Wharf. The man Antonio is head cook, is a Portugese by birth as I believe. About half past 6 o'clock or thereabout this evening there were two men one commonly called Mac, the other Chase. The first thing I saw was a man jump over the table it was Mac, the man who was stabbed. I saw Antonio stab Mac and he had the knife raised to stab him, a second time when I rushed in and took the knife from him. This is the knife now before me. Last sunday the man named Chase went into the back yard and Chase was in the act of letting a dog loose, he, Antonio attempted to stab Chase for letting the dog loose. Antonio speaks little or no English, I saw him stab Mac once, he may have stabbed him more than once, I called upon a Police Officer after the stabbing and requested him to take charge of Antonio. he had a star on his breast. The Police Officer said "yes"—"I will be there in a moment" he went up the wharf and I did not see him again. Mac jumped over the table towards Antonio, Mac and Antonio have not been on friendly terms for some time.

[Signed] Joseph Madill

Alexander Campbell—*Sworn*—Was born in Scotland am aged 32 about. Have been in California about 2½ years. Have been employed on Pacific Mail Steamers off & on for over two years. I saw a man called Antonio stab a man named McLane with a large knife. After he stabbed him he stood a few minutes when the crowd rushed in. It was in the Mississippi House on Long Wharf. When the crowd came in Antonio walked into the Kitchen. I was in the bar-room. I heard the exclamation of you son of a b—h made by the man called McLane the one that was stabbed. This exclamation was made previous to his being stabbed. I think I could identify the man who stabbed him. It was about dark. The stab was in the right breast. I saw the wound. Did not know either of the parties until this evening. When McLane was stabbed he exclaimed My God I am stabbed.

[Signed] Alex^rCampbell

San Francisco November 11th 1851

[November 11, 1851]

Have been in the United States over 17 years—Am a citizen of the U. S.

I have visited the wounded man. He had received a stab in the lower edge of the great pectoral muscle of the right side of the chest, which has not penetrated into the lungs. It is about half an inch in length, and is not dangerous to life.

[Signed] A. B. Stout M. D.

San Francisco Nov 11, 1851

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee November 12 1851.

Mr G W Ryckman in the chair.

Minutes of former meeting read and approved.

The Committee appointed for the purpose of procuring and engaging Counsel to defend a suit brought by one Peter Metcalf against certain members of the Committee of Vigilance,

Report, That they waited upon Mr Elisha Cook and stated the willingness of the Committee to employ him to defend the members being sued. Mr Cook undertakes to defend these suits on the terms proposed by your committee. Report accepted & placed on file.

The Committee appointed to wait upon the Foremen of the Engines Companies, California & Monumental,

Report that they will willingly give their bell to the use of the Committee for calling the members together, but desire that an order be given in writing. Report accepted & placed on file

The resignation of Mr W^m Burling was received and accepted.

A letter was received from Mr S Payran inclosing a letter from Ernest Kohle of Marysville who request that the Child taken from his house be returned or \$200. for the board of it. Communication laid upon the table

A letter was received from Mr J B Manny dated in San

[November 12, 1851]

Francisco, setting forth that he has been robbed by one Joseph Tufts and others Communication laid on the table.

On motion F Woodworth

Resolved, that the thanks of this Committee be tendered to our late Chairman Stephen Payran Esq for his unremitting attention and untiring vigilance during the whole period of his connection with this committee and for the gentlemanly and impartial manner in which he has at all times presided over the deliberations of this body, and that a copy of the same be furnished him. carried.

On motion of Col Huie

Resolved, that no original papers shall go out of this Committee room. carried.

On motion of Mr Argenti

Resolved that the four members being sued be empowered to authorise Mr E Cook to appear for the two absent members now being sued by Metcalf and that this Committee be responsible for the acts of the special committee. carried.

On motion Col Huie

Resolved That the resignation of Mr S Payran as a member of the Executive Committee be accepted. carried

The following Gentlemen were elected members of the Executive Committee

Mr A J Almy in place of Joseph Post	12 months
“ Frank Panton in place of L D Kinney	12 months
“ W L Bromley “ “ “ Geo H Howard	12 “
“ Jas F Curtis “ “ “ Geo J Oakes	6 “

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

[On motion of Mr Huie¹

That the Sergt at arms be sent for and inquiry be made from him how the communication from Mr Manny concerning Mr Tufts came into this room

On motion of Mr Wardsworth

That at the next regular meeting of this Com. . . .]

¹ The motions enclosed in brackets are from a draft of the minutes.

[November 12, 1851]

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Report on the Case of Metcalf vs. Argenti]

The Committee appointed for the purpose of procuring and engaging Counsel to defend a suit brought by one Peter Metcalf, against certain members of the "Committee of Vigilance" beg leave respectfully to *Report*:—

That agreeable to your instructions they waited upon Elisha Cook Esq and advised him of the willingness of your body to place the matter in question entirely in his hands on the terms by him proposed. That gentleman renewed his proposition and your committee made a final arrangement with him to defend the cause to its termination, agreeing to pay him for his services therein the sum of Five Hundred Dollars at the final settlement of the suit and to re-imburse him for any contingent outlay in cash, as such expenses may accrue.— Your Committee have been advised by the counsel so engaged that it is the intention of the opposing counsel to delay the issue of the cause by applying for an order to postpone the trial of the same until service can be made upon the absent parties mentioned in the writ, Messrs. Brinley & Schenck.— Your committee feeling it of the utmost importance that the case should come to trial with the least possible delay would therefore recommend that the Counsel engaged by them in your behalf should be authorised to appear and answer for the absent parties above named, and to waive service of process.—

Appended hereto is a receipt for Fifty Dollars which your Committee have paid to Counsel on a/c of disbursements before referred to.²—

All of which is respectfully submitted

[Signed]	Fredk. A. Woodworth	} Committee
"	James De Long	
"	Isaac Bluxome Jr	

San Francisco 12th Nov. 1851

*[Report of Committee Relating to the Use of the Engine
House Bells]*

The Committee appointed by the President of the executive

² See voucher No. 63, p. 787.

[November 12, 1851]

committee, of the Committee of Vigilance, for the purpose of inquiring into the report, that the "California" and "Monumental" Engine Companies of this City, had refused the Committee the use of their bells when desired, Beg leave to report

Your Committee called on the Foreman of the above mentioned companies, who denied ever having refused the use of their bells to the Committee, and now tendered the use of the same to the Committee of Vigilance, whenever the Committee desired them; but requested the Committee would call on any one of their members previous to their bell being rung, who would give the necessary order—As in one instance the "Monumental" bell had been rung by an *outsider*, without any order from the Committee of Vigilance, or the company— Respectfully submitted—

[Signed] George M Garwood

Ja^s C. L. Wadsworth

Special Committee

San Francisco November 12th 1851

[Annotated:] Accepted Com discharged

[Addressed:]

To The Executive Committee

Special Report of Committee

[*Letter from Ernest Kohle, Case of Mary Lye*]

San Francisco November 8th 1851

To the Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance

Gentlemen: Herewith you have a Communication received from Marysville, which I submit to you for such action as the case may demand.

As a precautionary measure I think it would be well to give notice to Mrs. Goodwin the Aunt and Foster Mother of the Child to take care of it—and propose Capt Garwood to give that notice

Very respectfully

Your obdt servt

[Signed] S. Payran

[Addressed:]

To The Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance

Present

[November 12, 1851]

Marysville October 30th 1851

Mr Parenz Chief of the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco—

Dr. Sir—

A few days since I returned from Downeville and found that you had been to my house & taken away a child, whose friends and parents placed in my hands about one year ago. Since that time the child has cost me a good deal of money, and I should be compensated for the outlay by any one who took the child from my possession—

I ought to receive at least \$200.—

I would prefer to receive back the child as I am going to move onto a Ranch in the Country and she would be much company to us—I cannot come to San Francisco, but wish you to write me concerning this matter— Tell me where the child is & what the prospects are of getting her back or the expense of maintaining her the past year and oblige

yours truly & respectfully

[Signed] Ernest Kohle

[Annotated:] On motion Capt Garwood laid on the table

[Addressed:]

To Mr. Parenz Chief of Vigilance Com.

San Francisco Cal

[Letter from J. B. Manny]

San Francisco Nov^r 1st 1851

To The Vigilance Committee of San Francisco

For the sake of Justice and the good order of society in this Commonwealth I wish to make known to you the facts of a robbery and attempted murder at Carson's Creek Calaveras County on the 18th day of September last.— One of the guilty parties is now in this city and it may be for the good of the community for your respectable body to know his criminal character. His name is Joseph Tufts at present stopping at the Rassetta House.—

My name is J. B. Manny from New York City and I am known to some of your body to be a peaceable citizen. On the 4th of September last I was at Carson's Creek engaged in quartz

[November 12, 1851]

mining and had a man engaged to work for me at 60\$ a month and board whom I had brought from the Valley of San-Jose. His name was William Gamble. This man had worked for me about the half of one month he then with evil design against me went before Joseph Tufts a pretended Justice of the peace and I believe the two together formed a plan to extort swindle and frighten me out of as much money as they possibly could. Gamble made a complaint that I owed him one hundred dollars and Tufts issued a forthwith warrant and attached my property without taking any security from complainant for the attachment which I demanded. This Gamble and Tufts kept watch of me day and night that I might not sell or remove any of my goods. Tufts came frequently in the dead hours of the night before the trial demanding the money or the goods to be given up to him.

On the trial the plaintiff called no testimony but relied upon himself alone to swear the money into his own pocket. I called two witnesses and after plaintiff had sworn I disproved the most of his testimony and swore off his complaint. On his oath he said he did not know how many days he had worked and swore much entirely false and contrary to all reason. He swore that I had agreed to pay him four Dollars pr day even while I was bringing him in my wagon at my own expense from San-Jose. The trial was on Saturday the 13th of September and Tufts was to render judgment at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 in the evening, but at that time he was together with about a dozen others engaged in drinking carousing and dancing at his office and I went home and to sleep without hearing what it was. At a quarter past 2 on Sunday morning the Constable came to my tent house with a Colts revolver and demanded judgment to the amount of 72 Dollars and 40 Dollars cost. He waked me out of my sleep in the dark night and tried to make me pay the money. I prevailed on him to go away untill morning when he returned served or read some execution or something I know not what for he would give me no copy of it and talked of arresting me for taking my horse away to feed and so on.—

I told him that I would comply with the law in all respects on Monday. I procured a lawyer on Monday who went with me

[November 12, 1851]

to Tufts and he got him to give his bill of costs. He immediately struck off 16 Dollars which he said he had charged for Gamble (the plaintiffs lawyer). He still charged 10½ Dollars for my two witnesses which I had subpoenaed and paid for at the time. One of these witnesses afterwards asked him for the money and he refused to pay him. I paid 27⁵/₁₀₀ Dollars costs—gave security for the judgment and appealed the case to the county court. To get the bond signed I deposited the money with Mr. E. Gonin a merchant that was satisfactory security.

Tufts was so enraged when I had complied with the law for appealing the case that he struck after me 4 times with a cane and swore he would shoot me. He did not send the papers up to court at all. On tuesday and wednesday nights I saw Gamble and others watching around my house and I went up on the hill and slept at a friends tent or house. On thursday morning the 18th I was preparing to go away from that place when W^m Gamble Francis Parton and John Goram came to my house and told me if I did not pay Gamble the money he had sued for they would take my life. They were armed with a revolver a large long pistol and a double barrellled pistol. They said I had the money in my pocket and if I did not pay it my life should pay it. As they did not seize me then I went to my friends house on the hill and left my purse and watch. He loaded a gun for me and told me if I took that they would be afraid to molest me. I went back to my tent house and commenced harnessing my horse. The same three men again returned with about 9 others mostly irishmen and some from Sydney. They repeated the same threats and came all around me. I was alone and had laid the gun down to harness my horse. They sprung upon me suddenly and seized hold of the gun. I struggled to retain the gun and kept my hold for some minutes. They pointed several pistols at my head and they called to another to shoot me through the head. I bent my head down expecting every moment would be my last but this circumstance providentially saved my life. They were all so close around me that if they fired at me they would also kill one of their own number. I relinquished the gun and while they were secreting the gun I got a little way from them but they

[November 12, 1851]

soon overtook me and commenced trying to kill me. One large tall man seized me by the throat and struck on the neck behind in order to break my neck. One gave me a heavy blow on the temple which stunned me very much. Another struck me in the face. Another struck me on back of the head with some heavy iron, I think it was an Allen's revolver. So many struck my head at once that I did not feel a large handful of hair which they pulled out at the same time. Francis Parton was one who was very anxious to have me killed for he would gain nearly a hundred dollars by it. He had bought about 65 Dollars worth of goods of me and swindled me out of the pay and then sold some of them to Gamble who could not pay Parton unless he robbed me. While some struck me others put their hands into my pockets and took what money I had left there about 8 Dollars and all else of any value. From struggling to get clear and their repeated blows I became completely exhausted and told them I would give them all I possessed if they would not take my life. I first gave them my property but they said they wanted the money. They dragged me almost lifeless up to the store where the money was deposited as security. Joseph Tufts was present at the store of Mr Gonin and did not raise his voice against it to them. They told Mr. Gonin that I said they could take the money and he gave it to them. They then suffered me to go and I left them while they were getting liquor with the money.

[Annotated:] Laid on the table Nov 12, 1851

*[Letter from Stephen Payran, Relating to his Resignation]*San Francisco, November 10th 1851

To Mess. J. B. Huie & F. Woodworth, Esquires

Gentlemen: Being informed of your appointment as a Committee to inquire of me in behalf of the Committee of Vigilance my reasons for offering my resignation as Chairman of your body, and member of the Executive Committee &c, I will cheerfully acquiesce with your instructions and as briefly as possible lay the causes before you, for such future action as you may deem proper.

[November 12, 1851]

One of the causes referred too is, that our usefulness as a Committee of Vigilance is at an end, by reason of the many innovations that have been allowed to creep in since our reorganization, to wit creating offices with salaries attached, increasing indebtedness without regard to the consequences, or the prospect of paying, the action taken by the Committee in regard to certain matters, prostrating the wisdom of our body and exposing it to unjust and offensive remarks abroad

At the time of our formation when we rallied together to rid our City of evils, and preserve life and property against the combined action of a corrupt Judiciary and rogues, we set forth the only just and true course, thereby carrying out the wisest maxim, "That the people only can redress grievances" under that we proceeded and in a short time, with great perseverance, great labor and expense, we secured to ourselves, peace and safety, and held forth to our representative powers the necessity of hereafter obeying the will of their constituents, or failing in so doing, they should be held amenable to the power creating them, having in a great measure accomplished our ends, it was thought advisable to curtail our powers, sink our debts, and leave for the present all matters in the hands of our constituted authorities and test their truth and honesty, merely keeping an Eye of Vigilance on their actions. However no sooner have we reorganized, than we proceed to create a Sargeant at Arms with a Salary of \$150, a Secretary with a Salary of \$100, these two items with other monthly expenses to wit, Rent \$50 per mo. Stationary &c \$50 per month making in the aggregate \$350 per month, when at the same time we have old and new debts to pay amounting to some two or three hundred dollars, without a dollar in the Treasury to meet them, it might be well could we end here, we have before us prospectively much greater difficulty to encounter, a portion of which already stares us in the face, I allude to the case of Metcalf vs Argenti. the first action of the Committee touching that matter was wrong and has entailed on us great difficulties, for the future, that case presents the following view

Judge Burritt holds a claim of	\$500
Austin Esquire do	500
Counsel at San José	500

[November 12, 1851]

Mr. Cook	500
Costs paid	125
Costs to accrue in last case	500

We have no reason to believe otherwise, than that the members of the Committee of Vigilance, will eventually have to pay these debts, as well as the monthly expenses, which amount now to upwards of \$3500, the current touching that case has set against us and instead of our taking measures, to estop it we continue to do acts calculated to encrease the evil and destroy our vigilance, from time to time members will be singled out suits brought, and if in the same ratio we vote for the same measures, as adopted in the previous cases, we shall create a debt of at least \$50,000, to say nothing of the annoyance and vexation attending litigation, this matter is also another cause of my resignation

From the time of our creation up to the present time, I have not caused the Committee to be put to any expense attending matters in which I have engaged, but invariably sought to save and to secure us from danger in regard to our Finances, and you may rest assured Gentlemen that in the case of Metcalf vs Argenti should I be implicated, the Committee shall not be subjected to any costs on my account, but I do complain bitterly that with so much wisdom in our assembly we should betray such want of foresight, we are by our course allowing a combination to form against us, which is calculated to do us much harm,

I never sought at your hands for Honor or preferment, I return you Gentlemen my warmest thanks, for having thought me worthy in our struggles to be made your Chairman, incapable as I may have been to discharge the trusts committed to me, if I have erred I do assure you my errors were not of the heart, I did not desire to be placed in the new Executive at the dissolution, or merging of the old Executive into the new, I really was surprised at my reelection especially when I had been informed that I was one of the causes for the dissolution, on the ground that I exercised too absolute a power, indeed when Leiut Maynard proposed me as President of the new Executive, and I was elected, I could not find utterance to express myself, for the honorary

[November 12, 1851]

distinction conferred on me, I had determined to resign at a convenient season, the present offer of my resignation is the third or fourth attempt, you may have observed that I have seldom taken the chair, I felt determined to put down the petty, selfish and jealous feeling that seemed to exist, I felt that shorn and stripped of all power, strength and authority, the chair alone without the man was fully competent to discharge the duty, notwithstanding the acceptance of my resignation I ever stand ready to comply with the solemn pledge made under the Constitution, whenever an exigency may arise, holding it to be our bounden duty to stand by each other under all circumstances.

The last and only other reason I shall offer you is that, of a proper interpretation or understanding of your Officers of the Constitution and Bye Laws of the Committee, the cause of which has allowed criminals to escape, or kept us in ignorance of the truth whereby our vigilance has been at fault,

Our Committee of Vigilance as it now stands may be aptly compared to a Barque without compass or wheel, crew mutinous or unwilling to do duty or pay obedience, with a lee shore and breakers in view, as an officer of such a Barque with such impending danger, in view I think it well to resign my command into the hands of another, or that the crew may select some one whom they will obey and save the ship ere it be too late, and I earnestly hope that by thus relinquishing my position, some one more skilful may bring you safely through, and anchor in a safe Haven

I feel Gentlemen that the thanks of your Committee is justly due to our worthy Treasurer Eugene Delessert Esquire throughout his career of office he has always stood forth and warned us of our position in a financial point of view, and so sanguine was he at one time of our ability to pay that he offered to loan us on our several promises to pay or refund him the amount, we thanked him but declined acceptance, now with an almost empty Treasury with an enlarged indebtedness and one likely to increase in the future, it is well that the offer was not accepted may he continue to discharge said duties

Having in a desultory manner set forth reasons why I have

[November 12, 1851]

offered my resignation to wit, innovations, in general, and not intended to have been allowed by the reorganization of our Committee.

Secondly, that the Office of President is a matter of mere honor, and therefore might be abolished, and an officer pro tempore would answer better, or a more useful purpose

Thirdly, that the present course of the Committee is calculated to involve the members in debt, without the means of payment, and eventually involve our honor, that the measures adopted in the case of Metcalf vs Argenti betrays a great want of prudence, as well as fear and is calculated to raise a combination against the Vigilance Committee whereby some must suffer—

Fourthly, That the Constitution and Bye Laws have become inoperative or not understood by subordinate officers, whereby the power and opinion of a Superior Officer and Officers amount to nothing, rendering the office of Chairman a nullity,

In conclusion, Gentlemen permit [me] to say that I entertain the liveliest feelings of regard for you, and shall ever remember the circumstances that brought us together and the happy issues arising therefrom, may the good produced ever remain, but should necessity ever demand at our hands the carrying out the solemn pledges made by us, I will be with you

I humbly trust that you will fill my position with some one who shall be agreeable to all, that you will alter and amend your Bye Laws, cut down all offices of pay—take action in the case of M. & A. in such manner as to prevent further cost, and make such arrangements with Mess Burritt & Austin as that those Gentlemen may have no cause of affront, and relinquish the claim that you may reconsider the vote in the matter of Mr Cook and let each member when sued enter his own appearance, and the Counsel employed may enter a plea, One case alone will determine the issue, and settle the whole matter in controversy, that you may bring all these matters to a happy issue, ever keeping a vigilant eye on the State and Condition of our City and State, believe me

Truly your obdt. servt

[Signed] S. Payran

[November 12, 1851]

Copy [of a Letter Accepting Mr. Payran's Resignation.]

Executive Committee Chambers

Stephen Payran Esq.

San Francisco Nov 20 [?]

Dr Sir Your communication to the Executive Committee of Committee of Vigilance, asking for the acceptance of your resignation as a member of this Committee, and leave of absence from General Committee with remittance of dues & fines was read last evening.

The Committee accept your resignation as a member of this body, but decide that they have no power to grant leave of absence or remittance of dues & fines from General Committee, unless the applicant is about to leave the State.

The following Resolution was offered and passed.

Resolved, that the thanks of this Committee be tendered to our late Chairman Stephen Payran Esq for his unremitting attention and untiring vigilance during the whole period of his connection with this Committee and for the Gentlemanly and impartial manner in which he has at all times presided over the deliberations of this body.

I have the honor to remain,

Yr Obt Servt,

[Signed] I. Bluxome Jr, Secy.

[Addressed:]

Stephen Payran Esq

Present.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Ex Com¹ Nov 16, 1851

Mr G W Ryckman in the Chair

Minutes of former Meeting dispensed

Handy arrested by Thomas Taylor & Duglason

Evidence in case of Handy

¹ A draft of minutes for November 16 is preserved in the files, but it has not been copied in the record book. The motion concerning the banner suggests that this session may have been identical with that reported in the book of proceedings on Wednesday, November 19, the day for the regular weekly meeting.

[November 16, 1851]

On motion of F Argenti

That the Banner of Committee of Vigilance now in charge of the Executive Committee be placed in charge of Charles Griswold for safe keeping.

Presen[t] G W Ryckman Mr Delassert, Argenti Griswold G R Ward Chas L Case I Bluxome Smiley

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Description of Demecho*]

James Town Nov 16th 1851

To the Vigilance Com. of Franc^o

Sirs, I send a Description of a Greek, by the name of Demecho who has committed one of the foulest murders and Boldest Roberys on Record. he is about five foot six in height—Dark complexion with the thumb of the left hand cut off short—Age between 30 and 40 years, when he left he had on him a light color Over Coat Black Hat Pants and Boots Any expenses for the arrest of the Greek will be paid cheerfully by the citizens of James Town—A letter directed to *Dr Clarke* of the above named place will meet with prompt attention

[Addressed:]

To the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco
in Haste

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee Nov 19. 1851

Mr G W Ryckman in the chair.

Minutes of former meeting read and approved

Mess Frank Panton A J Alma & James F Curtis accept their appointments on the Executive Committee.

On motion of Mr F Woodworth.

Resolved That the article in the *Sacramento Union* of Nov 14 headed. "Vigilance Committees—Their Necessity & Justice" be placed on file. passed ¹

¹ The *Sacramento Daily Union*, November 10, printed a long article commending the work of the Vigilance Committees of the state.

[November 19, 1851]

On motion of F Woodworth.

Resolved, That the Banner of the Vigilance Committee be placed in the hands of Chas Griswold Esq for safe keeping. carried

On motion of Geo R Ward.

Resolved That the Secretary be authorized to collect the outstanding dues of this committee.

On motion of Chas Griswold Esq

Resolved That a Committee of three be appointed by the Chairman to select a suitable room for the meetings of the Executive Committee. The following Gent were appointed. Mess Chas Griswold, Jas M Swift, & F Woodworth.

Letters were received from Mess A J Ellis & J R Snyder requesting the Committee to accept their resignations as members of Vigilance Committee as they had been elected members of the Legislature of this State Resignations were accepted

A letter was received, directed to Mr Argenti from Mess Francis Benzi, Pablo Cabassi, & Lorenzo Faroni stating that one Alexander Biergio had been murdered by a Spaniard called Damian and another named Peter Demitro. Communication placed on file.

Mr W^m Burling desired to resign from the Executive Committee as he was about to leave the State Resignation accepted.

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Special Meeting of Executive Committee Nov 25

Mr G W Ryckman in the Chair

Minutes of former meeting dispensed with

Present Mess Ryckman, Argenti, DeLong, Dewey Darling, Doves, Delessert, Swift, Ward, Garwood Bluxome.

[November 25, 1851]

Mr Ryckman stated that the meeting had been called together on information received from Mr J Gregory that a quantity of spurious Gold dust had been received in this City.

Mr Joseph W Gregory on being called before the committee stated—

That he had received a quantity of bogus gold dust from New York shipped by Mrs Sylvester consigned to Mr L Sylvester who lives in sacramento St between Montgomery & Kearny streets. Mr Gregory says that he called on Mr Crozier the City Marshall and told of it. Mr Crozier took no steps to stop the issue. Mr C said that there appeared a difficulty about it in proving that it was his (Sylvesters) that it might have been ship'd to him from New York without his knowledge, or that it might have been sent to him for his own use, in his business as a tinner. Mr C did not tell me to arrest the party when he called for the gold dust.

[On the Ship manifest it is called brass solder—

On the Receipt of Gregory the receipt reads Received of Mrs Sylvester, one tin Case &c¹

Mr G states that he has in his possession another box of the same material waiting for some one to call for it.]

On motion of Geo R Ward

Resolved That a Committee of three be appointed by the President for the purpose of waiting upon Mr Gregory and telling him to arrest the party who shall call for the box now in his possession, and when arrested to send for the committee The following gent were appointed Mess Argenti, Delessert, & Delong.

On motion of Geo R Ward

Mr Ryckman was added to the Committee

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

¹ The paragraphs in brackets are from a draft of the minutes. The receipt from Gregory's Express is preserved in the files.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee November. 26. 1851

Mr G W Ryckman in the Chair

Minutes of two former meetings Approved.

Mr F Woodworth, one of Committee on rooms, stated that he had taken some trouble to select a proper room for the meetings of the Executive Committee, but had not as yet conferred with the balance of the Committee, and would not be able to report until next meeting.

A communication was read, from Mr H Sayre President of Vigilance Committee at Wymans Ravine, dated Nov 17. 1851. in which he states that several brutal murders had been committed in his vicinity, and that one Bill Moulder, was strongly suspected of having something to do with them, and is supposed to be in or about this City.

On motion of Mr F Woodworth

Resolved That the communications be placed on file and that a copy be given to the Mayor of this City by the Secretary, and that the Secretary inform the Mayor that the Committee will render all the aid in their power to have the murderer arrested.

The Qualification Committee

Report the names of Mr De Witt C Brown in the place of Stephen Payran resigned, to serve for 6 months from the 17th of Sept last, and Mr James Murray in place of W^m Burling, resigned to, serve also for the term of 6 months from the 17th of last Sept. Report accepted, and the Gent were declared duly elected.

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

Wymans Ravine Nov 17/51

Mr Charles Wood

D Sir. Our vicinity has been greatly excited for a week past in consequence of Five of the most brutal murders, the bodies

[November 26, 1851]

of which have been found, and the absence of Four others, which are supposed to have shared the same fate. Circumstances since the murder have caused suspicion strongly to attach to *Bill Moulder*, whom doubtless you recollect. He was in possession of a claim, which three days before the murder he valued at \$500, and the next day after sold at a great sacrifice and left immediately. On the day he left, an attempt was being made to organize a Vigilance committee— He is known to have been holding communication, for ten days previous to the murder with suspicious looking individuals. He has been in the habit of spending considerable sums of money, which he is known not to have brought here, or to have made since. There is no proof that he was present when the deed was done, but is strongly suspected of being cognisant of the whole matter, he is supposed to be one of the gang

I have addressed this note to you to get you to lay this letter before the Vigilance Committee of Sacramento, not knowing the names of any of that Committee. I shall omit a description as you can give the committee *that* as well as I can— Moulder is from New Holland and left here with the avowed intention of returning to Sidney. The reason he gave for leaving, was that the climate did not agree with his health. He left without being aware that any suspicion attached to him, in fact, it was the sacrifice of his claim and his evident anxiety to get away, that led suspicion to him, since which many circumstances have been recollected, which has induced people to believe that he is one of the gang As he has gone to your city, the committee here has thought it advisable to call the attention of your committee to him¹—

Yours in haste

[Signed] H. Sayre

Pres Vig Committe Wymans Ravine

He goes by the name of W^m Morgan or W^m Moulder

¹ The papers told of a startling increase of crime in the mining regions, just at this time. Nearly thirty murders, within two weeks, were reported in the *S. F. Herald*, November 21, and Vigilance Committees were hastily organized in several of the camps and smaller towns.

[November 26, 1851]

Middle Size man, Meostushes he wore when I Last se him
he has a Lisp in his speech English Broge²

[Annotated:] On motion Capt Garwood

That letter be placed on file

[Addressed:]

Mr Charles D Wood

Sacramento

[In pencil, below:] Capt Patterson

Pacific Wharf

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee December 10. 1851

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the chair

Minutes of former meeting read & approved.

On motion of Mr G R Ward

Resolved That Committee on rooms be instructed to report
at the next meeting of Executive Committee

On motion of Mr G W Ryckman

Resolved That the accounts of Mr F Argenti in the case
of Metcalf vs Argenti Atkinson et als be refered to Finance
Committee

On motion of Mr Geo R Ward

Resolved That that the bill for coal of the steamer *Fire
Fly* be rejected, and that the Secretary be instructed to send the
bill back to the owner of the boat.

On motion of Mr G W Ryckman

Resolved That the report of the Treasurer lay on the
table until there are funds in the treasury.

On motion of Mr James Doves

Resolved That in consequence of the scarcity of funds in
the Treasury of the Committee, that a committeey be appointed
by the Chairman to divide the City into districts and select suit-
able persons from the Committee to waite upon all persons re-

² The postscript is in another hand.

[December 10, 1851]

siding in their district and obtain all the funds possible for the purpose of liquidating the debts of the Committee of Vigilance. Committee are James Dowes & Isaac Bluxome Jr

On motion of I Bluxome Jr

Resolved That a committee of three be appointed by the President to prepare a suitable certificate of membership to the Committee of Vigilance Committee Mr G W Ryckman, Mr Jas Dowes & F Woodworth¹

On motion of Mr J W Cartwright

Resolved That the Secretary be directed to give to Mr Wood a copy of the Confession of Whitaker & M^cKenzie.

On motion

Resolved That the suit of Metcalf vs Bluxome be referred to Committee on lawyers with power to act Committee are Mess De Long, Woodworth & Bluxome²

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Police Order]

Resolved That the Secretary be instructed to notify the members of the Committee on Collections, of their appointment and Enclosing them a copy of the resolution of this body in regard thereto.— Also furnishing each member of said Committee with a suitable heading for a subscription explaining the objects for which the Collections are made, and assigning [them] the particular district in which they [shall] operate,—

[Report on Collecting Funds]

The Committee appointed to divide the City in districts and appoint members to collect money from the inhabitants to defray the expenses of the Committee of Vigilance report the following

¹ Certificates engraved on vellum were sold to the members for \$5 each. See Frontispiece.

² On the very day on which the nominal damages for the plaintiff were awarded, Metcalf brought suit against Isaac Bluxome, Jr., and J. F. Curtis for \$50,000 each, on the old charge of trespass. *Alta California*, December 8.

[December 10, 1851]

East and West

Pacific St	from	Kearney St	east,	Noah Ripley
Jackson "	"	"	"	R M Jessup
Washington "	"	"	"	James Dowes
Clay St	"	"	"	Jas B Huie, J F Hutton
Long Wharf	"	Montgomery	"	Jas F Curtis Jas Murray
Commercial St	"	"	to Kearney	E Delessert
Sacramento St	"	Kearney St	[east]	James M Swift
California St	"	"	"	W ^m N Thompson, J Seligman
Pine St	"	"	"	H F Teschemacher

North & South

Kearney St	from	Clay St	North	J C L Wadsworth
"	"	"	South	Wells
Montgomery St	"	"	North	P Jacks, C R Bond, E Delessert
"	"	"	South	J ^{as} DeLong & E Delessert
Sansome St	"	"	North	W F Coleman, W A Darling
"	"	"	South	Geo R Ward
Battery	"	"	North	W ^m H White
"	"	"	South	G M Garwood
Front St	"	"	"	W L Bromley
City North of Broadway				N Miller

All of which is respectfully submitted.

[Signed]

James Dow

"

Isaac Bluxome Jr

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee Dec. 17. 1851

Mr G W Ryckman in the chair

Minutes of former meeting read & approved

On motion of Mr J W Cartwright

Resolved That a committee of five be appointed by the chairman to confer with Capt Ellis of Bark *Calleo* who was taken by force from his vessel by Mr McManus & others and ascertain whether the name of the Vigilance Committee was used for the

The undersigned on behalf the
 Senate approve their names for
 the purpose of depaying the ex-
 penses of the Committee of Vig-
 ilance.

FACSIMILE OF A LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE.
From the Collection of Mr. Charles B. Turrill of San Francisco.

[December 24, 1851]

purpose. Committee F Woodworth, J W Cartwright, G R Ward I Bluxome Jr H F. Teschemacher.

Mr F Woodworth on behalf of committee on rooms reported that they were unable to obtain rooms in a fire proof building at a reasonable rate and recommend that the present be used for another month.

On motion of Mr D W C Brown

Resolved, that the Committee on Certificate of membership have further time to report, and full power to act.

On motion of Mr Argenti.

Resolved That a member of this Committee be sent to San José to urg upon Mess Crosby & Tingley the necessity of making a motion to have judgment satisfied in the case of Metcalf vs Argenti Atkinson et als and not to leave San Jose until the business is finished.

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Report of Committee Appointed to Confer with Captain Ellis*]

Capt Wiliam Ellis of Brk. *Calleo* lying near Long Wharf was aroused this morning, Dec 17 at one oclock by six Irishmen, and two watermen, all of whom represented themselves as members of the Vigilance Committee of this city.— Believing them as such, he went with them in their boat.— They took him to the Mission Creek— there landed him— took him under the threat of hanging if he refused some three or four miles into the country, and then exhibited a rope with which they threatened to hang him unless he paid them £220. Had no money with him, but in order to save his life had to promise to pay that amount.— Knows one of the party very well, is named McManus— the same man that escaped from the Colonies.— Another of the party called his name Russell, a brick layer.— They told him that Jack Hays was also one of the party, but does not believe it was Hays.— Another man of the party represented himself as belonging to the revenue department.— Both the watermen represented themselves as in the employ of

[December 17, 1851]

the Vigilance Committee.— Ellis once received in part payment for assisting in the attempted escape of Smith O'Brien £220, and this being the same amount demanded is probably the reason for demanding that particular amount. Neither of the six men ever paid anything toward the £220.—

[Committee:] F. Woodworth Cartwright Ward
Bluxome Teschemacher

[Testimony. One page is missing.]

[. . .] but to my surprise they refused to allow him to go. Mr Coombs asked them where they were going to take me, they replied that if he would enquire at the Sheriffs office in the morning they would find out we then pulled up to Mission Creek and went alongside of a Schooner at the head of the creek, they asked among themselves if the Major was there with horses, I landed, & they held a consultation with each other. MacManus stepped up to me and told me that I was his or their prisoner, and if I moved one inch it would be instant death to me, Mr McManus gave the order to march forward we went by a long sandy road I should think at least three or four miles where there was a brick kiln, they held another consultation, McManus took me to a hut close by, and took me inside and ordered me to remain there, a fire was lighted and they gave me some spirits to drink and something to eat, but I eat nothing I remained in the hut about one hour and afterwards I was tried by Mr McManus and his men, Mr McManus had a rope which he said he was going to hang me with, I was asked several questions respecting Mr Smith O'Brien I gave them every satisfaction respecting the affair, they then retired from the hut for co[n]sultation,¹ they returned in about . . .¹ and acquitted me of the charge of betraying Smith O'Brien, and of running away with the Cutter *Victoria*. The jury called me out to the outside of the hut and told me that I would have to pay 220£ for one half and the outfit of the *Victoria*. The men told me that I could go home again, Mr McManus still persisted in desiring to shoot me but the others kept him off. I had no arms about me. One of the men who appeared to be my friend I asked to lend

¹ Paper torn.

[December 17, 1851]

me a pistol, and if I had done wrong I would fight Mr McManus there, his friends would not allow it, and said they were perfectly satisfied with my statement and would see me home safe. The Cutter *Victoria* was lost at the Sandwich Islands about 10 months since.

[Signed:] W^m Ellis

San Francisco Dec 18. 1851

Thomas Russel being duly sworn deposes & says, I know Capt Ellis he was, in New Zealand, always born a first rate character (I have known him about 6 years), until about 7 years since, I was then residing in New Zealand, he commanded the Schooner *Hannah*, and was brought in port and charged with Piracy, I was empaneled on the jury, but being favorably inclined towards Cap't Ellis I was excused from serving on the Jury, he was tried and sentenced to 7 years to one of the Penal Colonies. At the time I made up my mind that he was not guilty of the offence and resolved with others to take him from the gaol by force. A strong guard being at the gaol we did not attempt it. I was one of the party who went on board the Bark *Calleo*, I called to Capt Ellis and told him to come up, he told me to come in the morning, I got opposite the Cabin door so that he should not make his escape with a pistol in one hand and a knife in the other, he made no resistance presently a boat came alongside I told him to dress himself and come with us, he did so, he got into the boat we pulled away around the coast some where and into the bush, there was a number of men . . . they took something to eat, and . . . Cap't Ellis had a fair trial . . . explained himself very well, and satisfied some of the men, but did not satisfy me altogether. I have never heard any one say anything bad of Cap't Ellis. I did not say that we were members of the Vigilance Committee, nor did I hear anyone say so

[Signed] Tho^s Russell

San Francisco Dec 18. 1851

Capt John Coombs being duly sworn deposes & says, I was on board the Bark *Calleo* when a party came on board & wanted

[December 17, 1851]

Cap't Ellis, I heard some one state that the Vigilance Committee wanted them.

[Signed] John Coombes

Alexander Richards being duly sworn deposes & says. Mr Coombes remarked while this party came on board that this was the Vigilance Committee came to visit them. There was no distinct avowal from any of the party that they were members of the Vigilance Committee.

[Signed] Alex^r Richards

John Valnear About the middle of the night a party of men came on board the Bark *Calleo*, and one of the party stated that he was an officer [of the Committee of Vigilance²]

[Signed] Vellere[?]

Cap't William Webster [. . .]

San Francisco Dec 18. 1851

Thomas Melville I was present when the party came on board the Bark *Calleo*, I did not hear any one say that they were members of the Committee of Vigilance

San Francisco Dec 18, 1851

[Signed] Tho^s Melville

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1851

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee Dec. 24. 1851

Mr G W Ryckman in the chair.

Minutes of former meeting read & approved.

On motion of Mr Delessert

Resolved That the Secy write letters to all members of the Executive Committee who have absented themselves for three consecutive meetings, and request them to state in writing, why their seats should not be declared vacant.

² The words in brackets are crossed out.

[December 17, 1851]

On motion of J C L Wardsworth

Resolved That a Committee of three be appointed by the President to see that the banner of the Committee of Vigilance be placed in the fair of the Ladies of Trinity Parish. Committee Mr W N Thompson, E Delessert, & T J L Smiley

J W Cartwright one of Committee appointed at last meeting to enquire whether the name of the Vigilance Committee was used by McManus and others in abducting Cap't Ellis from his Ship—

Reports that the special committee were satisfied that the name was not used in the prosecution of this outrage Report accepted & committee discharged.

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1851.

MINUTES.

Minutes of Executive Committee Dec 31. 1851

Mr G W Ryckman in the Chair.

Minutes of former meeting read and approved.

A letter was received from Mr J C P Weeks Secretary of Vigilance Committee at Mokelame Hill, in which he states that a man named James Campbell had murdered a Chilano named Estaban Naides, of which he was found guilty by a jury, but finally escaped, and desired this Committee to arrest him, should he come to this City. It was ordered that the letter be placed on file and that the Secretary answer it.

A letter was also received from Mr Alex Kirchner desiring leave of absence for two months as he is about to leave the state for that time. The request was granted.

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Letter from Vigilance Committee, Mokelumne Hill*]

Mokelumne Hill Dec 28. 1851.

Gentlemen

A gambler by the name of James Campbell was tried on Friday last by a Jury of the people of this place for killing most wantonly a Chilian by the name of Estaban Naides, a verdict was rendered of "Wilful Murder without provocation," but when returned a small assemblage only was present & he was released by the influence of the gamblers & he fled below.¹ Yesterday a Vigilance Committee was organized here, & they have offered a reward of \$300 for the delivery of Campbell at the Rooms of the Committee in this place, which sum will be paid on his delivery.

If arrested any assistance in the way of furnishing evidence or otherwise will be rendered by addressing our body.

Campbell was formerly a member of Stevenson's Volunteers & the "San Francisco Hounds"

Height 5 feet 9 in. Hair dark brown, eyes dark gray. Complexion Fair—Visage long; aged about 25 years.

Any effort on your part to secure the arrest & delivery of Campbell will be gratefully reciprocated.

Respectfully your's,

Per order of the Executive Committee

[Signed] J. E. P. Weeks,
Secretary

To the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco

[Annotated:] Received & placed on file and Secy an's this.

Dec 31

Ans'l Jan 5. 1852 I B Jr secy

[*Letter from Alex Kirchner*]

President Executive Committee Committee of Vigilance

Sir The undersigned prays for leave of absence for the

¹ The *Alta California*, December 30, published a detailed account of the trial and release of this criminal. Clark was a member of Company E, First Regiment of New York Volunteers.

[December 31, 1851]

term of two months, as he is about leaving the State for that period.

Respectfully

Alex. Kirchner

Sanfrancisco 27 Dec 1851—

[Annotated:] granted, Dec 31

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Com^e Jany 7th 1852

Mr Cartwright in the chair

Minutes of former meeting read & approved

On motion of Mr Argenti that the Secretary be instructed to notify the members of the executive, that business of importance would be brought before them at the next meeting and to request a full attendance.

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Geo. R Ward

Secy pro tem

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

Benicia Jan^y. 10th 1852

Dear Mr Oakley

Two Brothers on the Steam Ship "Northerner" was robbed of their Clothes a Bank Book on Yesterday Evening or this Morning. The Bank Book was on the Savings Bank Cor. Montg. & Clay St^t the Money put in by George Wiedhoffer[?] to the amt of \$230— Robinsons & Cos Bank— You will please see and stop the payment at Bank—

By So doing will oblige

Yours truly

[Signed] W^m Rickards

The *Northerner* will be in San Francisco early on Monday Morn.

[Addressed:]

Daniel Oakley Esq^r

Care of Middleton & Smiley

San Francisco

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee January 14. 1852

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the chair

Minutes of former meeting read and approved

A letter from Mr. Edward Oakes of Boston Mass was read and ordered to be placed on file.

A letter was received from No 33. [B Reynold] setting forth the probable cause of the death of Mrs Lambert Ordered that the Secretary have permission to lay the matter before a Justice of the Peace.

On motion of Geo R Ward

Resolved That the name of the Treasurer be signed on the left hand side of the Certificates of membership to Committee of Vigilance Carried

On motion of F Woodworth

Resolved, That the Secretary be authorised to obtain a box in the Post Office for the Committee of Vigilance carried

On motion of F Woodworth

Resolved That the Treasurer be authorised to pay the bill of Mr M Griffith of Steamer *Fire Fly* for coal carried¹

On motion of J C L Wardsworth

Resolved That the Secretary write to each of the members who have a subscription list to report at the next meeting and request them to exert themselves to make the amount as large as possible. carried

On motion of F Woodworth

Resolved That as soon as the Officers of the Committee can have the certificate ready they shall make it known to the members, by publication in the daily papers carried

On motion of T J L Smiley.

Resolved That a meeting of the General Committee be called and that at that meeting the proposition of adjournment sine die be submitted. The motion was laid on the table.

¹ See voucher No. 95, p. 796.

[January 14, 1852]

Mess Smiley & Hutton desired that the secretary record their votes in the negative.

On motion adjourned [Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee January 21, 1852

Mr G W Ryckman in the chair.

Minutes of former meeting read and approved.

A letter was received from Mr Argenti in which he requests leave of absence for 3 or 4 months. granted

Leave of absence was granted to Chas L Case

On motion of Geo R Ward

Resolved that Mess Berford & Connor be accepted as members of the Vigilance carried¹

Mr Geo R Ward volunteered to make collections on Sansome St from Clay St South, in place of Chas L Case who has gone to New York

On motion of Geo R Ward.

Resolved that certificates of membership be sent to Cap'ts W^m A Howard, & E Wakeman on parchment, now absent at the Sandwich Islands, with appropriate letters. carried. Mr F Woodworth was appointed to correspond.

On motion adjourned [Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary.

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Resolution*]

That certificates of membership on vellum be forwarded gratis to Capt W. A. Howard & Capt E Wakeman with appropriate letter, in consideration of the valuable services of those members.

[Annotated:] Adopted Jan'y 21, 1851 [1852]

Geo R Ward

¹ Berford's signature is not on the roll of members. Edward Conner was number 712.

[January 21, 1852]

[Letter from Felix Argenti]

To the President of the Vigilance Committee

Dear Sir This will be handed to you by my friend Mr Delessert who will explain to you that I have been obliged to start this morning for New York in such haste as to be unable to take a personal leave of you. I beg to assure you that I still remain with you heart & soul. I shall return here within 3 or 4 months when I hope to find you all in good health & our City flourishing.

Meanwhile I remain

Sincerely yours,

[Signed] F. Argenti

[Annotated:] Rec'd Jany 21. 1852

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee January 28, 1852

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the chair

Minutes of former meeting read and approved

The following Gentlemen were admitted as members of the Committee of Vigilance

Cap't Isham¹Capt W^m MacMichael

Capt Ottinger

Edward C Kemble

Capt W^m W Lawrence

Mr George R Ward one of committee on collections

Reported that he with Mr T J L Smiley had collected and paid over to the Treasurer 200.\$ and that there was about 100\$ more subscribed, to be collected. Report was accepted and privilege given to the committee to collect any other sum from the citizens, in any part of the city.

On motion, a vote of thanks was given to the gen't for their untiring efforts to rid the Committee of Vigilance from debt.

¹ The signature of William MacMichael is number 711, and that of J. B. G. Isham is number 716, the last on the roll of the Committee. None of the other names are listed as members.

[January 28, 1852]

Mr Fre'd Woodworth committee on correspondence read letters prepared for Capt's W^m A Howard & Edgar Wake-man "accepted."

Mr Seligman was appointed to make collections of money on California St for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Committee of Vigilance, in place of Mr Chas Griswold, who is sick.

On motion of Mr W^m H White

Resolved that Mess Selim E Woodworth & Geo R Ward be appointed a committee to waite upon Sheriff Hays, and get a statement of the disposition of the Gaol fund and obtain a lein or other security for the citizens who subscribed their money for the completion of the building, and that said committee have full power to act.

On motion of Mr I Bluxome Jr Mr G W Ryckman was added to that Committee

Mr F Woodworth one of Committee appointed to waite upon . . . V Marziou, reported that he had called upon him concerning the [French Convicts] . . . who were said to be on their way here, and that . . . V Marziou showed him letters which denied the charge and showed the impossibility of it, and promised to give the Committee a copy of the letters.²

On motion of Mr T J L Smiley

Resolved that the letters be published as soon as received. carried

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee February 4th 1852

Mr G W Ryckman in the chair

Minutes of former meeting read and approved

Mr Geo R Ward one of Committee on french convicts, read

² This paragraph is confused by corrections and interlineations.

[February 4, 1852]

a letter directed to Mess V Marziou & Co from their Government, setting forth in substance, that the emigrants from France would be the laboring classes, and that no person would be allowed to sail except he could give good references as to character.

On motion of Mr Geo R Ward

Resolved That a communication be addressed to Mr W^m G Blake signed by the President & Secretary and under the seal of the Committee, most explicitly denying that Mr Cartwright had any authority to contract debts for the Committee of Vigilance, and also that Mr Cartwright be called upon for explanation

On motion of Mr D W C Brown

Resolved that from and after this date the office of Sergeant at arms be abolished, and that the Secretary notify the person holding the office of this resolution.

On motion of Mr D W C Brown

Resolved that no action be taken in the case of Blake vs Cartwright until Mr Cartwright can be heard in his defence

On motion of Mr F Woodworth

Resolved that unlimited leave of absence be granted to Mr John J Vioget and that the Secretary notify him of the fact

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

Copy [of a Letter to Mr. Oakley]

Executive Committee Chambers

San Francisco February 4. 1852

Mr D L Oakley

Sir I am directed by the Executive Committee of Vigilance Committee to notify you that from and after the date of this letter the Office of Sergeant At Arms is abolished.

I remain Your Obt Serv't

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary.

[Letter from Mr. John J. Vioget]

To the Honorable President of the Executive Vigilant Committee

Sir The undersigned being obliged to remove with his family at a farm distant from this City Beg to present his

[February 4, 1852]

regnisation of his membership of the Honorable Vigilant Committee, If I had remained in this town he would felt honored to remain as a member of the said Committee

Yours most Ob^t S^t

John J. Vioget

No. 196.

San Francisco 4th february 1852.

[Addressed:]

To the Honorable President of the Vigilant Committee of San Francisco

Copy [of a letter to Mr. John J. Vioget]

Executive Committee Chambers

San Francisco February 5th 1852

John J Vioget

Sir At a meeting of the Executive Committee of Committee of Vigilance a letter from you desiring your resignation to be accepted, for reasons set forth, was read. I am directed by the Committee to say to you that no resignation can be accepted, but they give you unlimited leave of absence, and remission of dues and fines.

I am also authorised to thank you, for the Committee, for your untiring vigilance, and promptness when called upon for duty.

I remain Your Obt Serv^t

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee February 11. 1852

Mr G W Ryckman in the chair

Minutes of former meeting read and approved

A bill was presented by Mr Ryckman for Mess Reid & Co for expenses of Mr Cartwright to Columa & back for one hundred & thirty dollars

[February 11, 1852]

Mr Cartwright made a motion

That the Secretary address Mess Reid & Co a letter stating that Mr Cartwright had no direct authority from the Committee of Vigilance to contract debts in their name and consequently the bill is returned to them. [. . . the bill is returned to Mr Reed agt for Mr Blake¹]

On motion of Mr G W Ryckman

Resolved that the Secretary report at the next meeting the names of the Gent who have been absent for six successive meetings.

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Bill from Mr. H. Reed.]

San Francisco Feb. 4, 1852

The Executive Committee of the Vigilance
of San Francisco

To H Reed

Dr,

To Amt. of two notes given by J. W. Cartwright at
Coloma for funds loaned said Cartwright while
acting as Agent of Committee at Coloma Nov
27th 1851

Vz

Note Dated Nov 27 1851. for

\$30.00

" " Dec 2 " "

108.50

 \$138.50

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee February 25. 1852

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the Chair.

The Committee on jail fund report that they have seen Mr
B F Harley D'y Sheriff and received from him a statement of

¹ The phrase in brackets is from a draft of the resolution.

[February 25, 1852]

the way in which the moneys given to the Sheriff for the completion of the County jail had been expended, and that a lein for the amount had been filed in the Office of the County Recorder, the following is the statement

James Donahue for doors & locks	2750.
Blakburn & Thompson for Cement	200.
Williams & Meiggs for lumber	377.
P D Headley for Cement 451.75 S P Divine mason 63. ⁰⁰	514.75
F P Smith Carpenter 254. ⁰⁰ J OConnor carpenter 130. ⁵⁰	384.50
W A Weadle mason 134. W Brindle mason 67.	201.
Smith " 212. Merritt & Welton carters 38	250.
	<hr/>
	\$4677.28

The following Gentlemen were appointed trustees for the Gaol fund. James Dows, James M Swift and Selim E Woodworth.

A bill of 50\$ was presented for rent of room. ordered paid

A bill of *Evining Picayune* was presented. ordered paid and paper discontinued

On motion of I Bluxome Jr

Resolved that a letter of condolence be sent to the friends of Cap't Charles Thompson of Steamer *General Warren* who was lost at the mouth of Columbia River on the 28th of January, also a certificate of membership

Mess G M Garwood, W^m H White & F Woodworth request leave of absence as they are about to leave the City for the Atlantic States, until the term for which they were elected members of the Executive Committee expires.

On motion of Mr T J L Smiley.

Resolved that the Qualification Committee report at the next meeting the names of Gent who will be willing to serve as members of the Executive Committee.

[February 25, 1852]

On motion of Mr J C L Wardsworth

Resolved that the Treasurer of the Committee be ordered to pay the bills as they were contracted so far as approved by the Committee.

On motion of Mr J C L Wardsworth

Resolved that the bill of Mess Wood & Cook for defending Mellus et als be approved and paid by the Treasurer

On motion Adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Letter from Captain George M. Garwood*]

S. E. Woodworth Esqr.

President of the Committee of Vigilance of the City of San Francisco

Sir I purpose to leave here on the 15th inst to visit the Alantic States with an intention to return to this *State* with my family, And therefore beg leave of absence for eight months—

Respectfully yours &c

[Signed] George M Garwood.

Nº 46

San Francisco February 11th 1852

[Annotated:] leave of absence granted with remission of dues and fines Feby 11. 1852. I B Jr Secy

[*Letter to Captain George M. Garwood*]

Executive Committee Chambers

San Francisco Feby 15. 1852

Capt G M Garwood

Sir I am directed by the Executive Committee of Committee of Vigilance to inform you that they have granted, leave of absence, to you for the term of eight months from the date of this letter.

I am also requested to thank you in behalf of the Committee, for the many valuable services rendered by you to the Committee. [. . .]

Gentlemen

I beg leave to inform that by the authority of the Committee of Finance of the County of San Francisco, I draw upon you for the sum of \$4000 of the County Jail Fund, in the following names:

- James Donahoe
- Blackburn & Co
- William & M
- P. D. Hedley
- S. P. Devine
- F. P. Smith
- J. O'Connor
- W. A. Wood
- W. Brindle
- Smith
- Merritt & W

No. 8
San Francisco October 4th 1851

EUG. DELASSERT, LIGERON & CO.

[OFFICE HOURS, FROM 9 A. M. TO 4 P. M.]

Pay to the order of Messrs. J. P. Devine & Co.
for the County Jail Fund \$4000
One Hundred & fifty two 100

John L. Hayes by B. F. Harley

FACSIMILE OF A DRAFT ON THE FUND FOR COMPLETING THE COUNTY JAIL.

The original drafts are found in the County of San Francisco. 1851, Oct. 10, Jan. 1852, March 20, Jan. 1852. A memorandum, in Harley's writing, reads as follows:
Amount of loans for material & labor filed by... Hayes \$2500.75
" expended since filing said loans 100.00
" Donations bill for Iron Doors, unpaid 2500.00
\$7100.75

[February 25, 1852]

Jail Fund Report, Sheriff Hayes

San Francisco Feby 13. 1852

Gentlemen

I beg leave to report to you that by the authority of the Committee of Finance of the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco. I drew upon the Banking house of Messrs Dellesert & Co for the sum of \$4694.29/100¹ which I expended for the completion of the County Jail and filed a lein in the recorders office of this County, in the following sums, and for these purposes viz paid

James Donahue for doors & locks	\$2750—
Blackburn & Thompson for Cement	200—
William & Meiggs for lumber	377—
P. D. Hedley “ Cement	451.75
S. P. Devine Mason	63.
F. P. Smith Carpenter	254.
J. OConner do	130.50
W. A. Weedle Mason	134.
W. Brindle do	67.
Smith do	212.
Merrit & Welton Carters	38.
	<hr/>
	\$4677.28—

Very Respectfully

John C. Hays

[Signed] by B F. Harley

To Geo R Ward Esqr

S E Woodworth “

G. W. Ryckman “

¹ The original drafts are preserved in the files. The following entries are found in the General Index of the Recorder's Office, San Francisco; “1851, Oct. 10, Jno. C. Hays (Grantor) vs. County Jail (Grantee), Lien” “1852, March 30, Jno. C. Hays “ County of San Feo. “ Sat. on Lien”

A memorandum, in Harley's writing, reads as follows:

Amount of liens for material & labor filed by . . . Hays	\$3406.78
“ expended since filing said lien	435.00
Donohues bill for Iron Doors, unpaid	3300.00

\$7141.78

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee March 3, 1852

There not being a quorum present

Mr Ward made a motion to adjourn, until Wednesday evening next the 10th inst.[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

*[Correspondence with Vigilance Committee of Mokelumne Hill.]*Executive Committee Rooms
Mokelumne Hill, Jan'y 9. 1852

Mr Isaac Bluxome Jr,

Dear Sir. Your favor of the 5th inst, was duly received, and I am instructed to convey to your body the thanks of our Committee for its early and prompt attention to the subject matter of our communication. We will take pleasure in communicating to you any information in our power relative to criminals and rendering any assistance for their arrest.

To your polite offer of forwarding us a copy of your constitution and bye laws, I will say, that our Committee will be gratified to receive the same as early as it may suit your convenience to transmit them.

Your's respectfully,

[Signed] J. E. P. Weeks,
Secretary[Annotated:] Reed & placed on file
Ans'd March 2. 1852

[Addressed:]

Mr. Isaac Bluxome, Jr.

San Francisco

N. C.

[March 3, 1852]

Executive Committee Chambers

Mokelomne Hill Feb'y 29th 1852

Mr I Bluxome Jr Secy of Vig. Com^e of San Francisco.

Sir:— In your Letter of 5th Ult. to our former Secretary Mr J. E. P. Weeks, you kindly made the offer of forwarding a copy of your "Constitution & bye-laws" to the Vigilance Committee of this place, at their desire.

Mr Weeks said he had accepted your offer; however, thus far Nothing has come to hand; consequently, we would, most respectfully, renew the desire of obtaining a copy of "the Constitution & bye-laws" of your respectable association

I have the honor to remain Your Obt Servt

[Signed] Wm. L. Zuber

Secretary

By order of the Executive Committee.

[Adressed:]

Mr Isaac Bluxome Jr.

San Francisco Cal^a

Copy

Executive Committee Chambers

San Francisco March 2^d 1852

J E P Weeks Esq

Dear Sir Your favor dated Jany 9th came duly to hand, and I have been compelled to delay answering in consequence of a suit commenced against some members of our Committee for trespass in searching the house of a Sydney man, supposed to have stolen goods in his possession; the suit was for 50,000.\$ damages; the Jury brought in a verdict of 6 cents and all the suits against members have been discontinued.¹ I was ordered by the court to bring up all the books & papers of the Committee of Vigilance together with the Constitution, and I immediately gave them to a member and told him not to let me know what he did with them, so that I might go into Court and swear that I did not know where they were; this is my excuse for not answering sooner.

¹ The suit of Metcalf vs. Mellus et als., tried in the Superior Court of San Francisco, in February, resulted in a verdict of six cents for the plaintiff. *S. F. Herald*, February 20, 1852.

[March 3, 1852]

Enclosed you will find a Copy of our Constitution, and a blank Certificate of membership of the Committee of Vigilance of San Francisco.

I have the honor to remain

Your Obt Servt

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee March 13. 1852

Minutes of former meeting read and approved

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the chair

On motion of Mr Geo R Ward

The following Gentlemen were appointed as a Qualification Committee. James C Ward James Dows James De Long G W Ryckman Capt J F Hutton

Mess A J Alma, F Panton & W L Bromley never having been present at the meetings of the Executive Committee On motion of Mr Geo R Ward it was

Resolved that the seats of the three named Gentlemen be declared vacent and that the Qualification Committee select three others to fill their places carried

On motion of Mr T J L Smiley

Resolved that the Secretary call a meeting of the General Committee on the evening of the 17th of the present month at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 o'clock at the old rooms on Batery St. Mess G W Ryckman, T J L Smiley & James Dows were appointed to make the necessary arrangements.¹

The Qualification Committee reported the names of Mess G

¹ The *S. F. Herald*, March 17, stated that the recent increase of crime in the city had roused the Vigilance Committee to renewed activity. The following notice appeared in the papers of the same date:

"Vigilance Committee Attention! In conformity with a resolution passed at the last meeting of the Executive of Vigilance, the whole body of the General Committee are required to meet This Evening, Wednesday, the 17th inst., at half past 7, P. M., at the old Committee Rooms, on Battery street. The object for which this meeting is called

[March 13, 1852]

W Ryckman, S E Woodworth & Isaac Bluxome Jr to serve as members of the Executive Committee in the places of Mess A J Alma F Panton & W L Bromley who were elected for one year from the 17th of September last. The Gent were declared elected.

On motion of Mr James F Curtis

Resolved that a certificate of membership be presented to Mr Jamvrin with a letter giving him leave of absence without charge

On motion of Jas C Ward

Resolved that a Committee be appointed to waite upon Mess Austin & Burritt and try to effect a compromise with them on their bills against the Committee of Vigilance. Mr Jas C Ward was appointed.

On motion of George R Ward

Resolved that the Executive Committee report through their Qualification Committee, the names of suitable Gent to fill the vacancies occasioned by the expired term of the six months members

On motion of Mr James F Curtis

Resolved that the office of Secretary shall cease to be an office of pay after the 17th of the present month.

On motion of Mr George R Ward

Adjourned

[Signed]

Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Gl Com¹ March 17, 1852

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the Chair

The President stated the object of the meeting and read extracts of the journal of the Executive Committee—

being of so much importance to every member of this body, a full attendance is expected.

I. Bluxome, Jr., Sec'y.

San Francisco, March 17, 1852."

¹ Drafts of minutes of meetings on March 17, 24, and 31 are preserved in the files, but are not copied in the record book.

[March 17, 1852]

Report of the Secy of the Executive Committee accepted—

Report of Treasurer Accepted

On motion of J B Huie, Resignation accepted vote of thanks
to Mr Delessert—by Genl Com—Qualification Com Report the following Genl as members of
the Executive Com to serve for 12 months from the 17th of March
1852 [. . .]¹ carried

Mr Delessert & Mr Payran certificate on Parchment—

On motion G R Ward

Any member of Com who shall not obtain a Certificate
within 30 days from date his name shall be stricken from the roll

[Annotated on back of sheet:]

A. J Cornell Subscription

J G Baker do

P Jacks will collect 100\$

679 D W Chancey wants certificate

154 John M Coughlin “ “

135 A L Tubbs for cer 5 pd

F A Atkinson for cer 5 pd

Paid Delessert 102.⁵⁰

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Resignation of Mr. Eugene Delessert]

Committee of Vigilance

To the Members of the Executive Committee

San Fr^{co}. March 1852Gentlemen & Friends— Since the beginning of our worthy
association, you have honored me with the title of treasurer,

¹ Six months had now elapsed since the reorganization on September 17, 1851, and it was time for another election for members of the Executive Committee. The *Herald* reported that 315 members attended the session of March 17, and that many were kept away by an important meeting in the Plaza, called for the discussion of the matter of the Colton land grants. The names chosen are not given in the minutes, but the roll call, kept by the secretary, was rewritten for the new term, and includes the following: W. C. Annan, Isaac Bluxome, Jr., Samuel Brannan, H. A. Cobb, J. P. Corrigan, J. E. Dall, W. A. Darling, James De Long, Eugene Delessert, James Dows, E. M. Earl, A. M. Ebbets, J. S. Ellis, G. M. Garwood, S. R. Gerry, Eugene Hart, D. N. Hawley, R. Hochklofer, G. H. Hossefros, W. A. Howard, Pulaski Jacks, A. Kirehner, R. S. Lamot, B. G. Latimer, William MacMichael, L.

[March 17, 1852]

confidence which I have highly appreciated & tried to fulfill to the best of my ability

Business calling me to Europe & not expecting to return before end of present year I give you notice of my Departure in order to enable you to elect an other treasurer

I beg also leave of absence wishing to remain an honory member of your Society during my absence

I cannot omit Gentlemen to thank you for the most friendly manner which you always showed me during my sojourn amongst you

Wishing you success in your noble enterprise, beleive me Gentlemen one of your warmest members & friend

[Signed] Eug Delessert

Treasurer

[Annotated:] On motion of G W Ryckman

Resolved, That leave of absence be granted to the within Applicant and that the Secy address a letter to Mr Delessert

Copy [of a letter to Eugene Delessert]

To Eugene DeLessert Esq

Dear Sir. The Executive Committee of the Committee of Vigilance, acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 13th March 1852, in which you tender your resignation as Treasurer of the Committee, and ask a leave of absence during your intended visit to France.—

I am instructed to inform you that the latter was granted, and that in accepting the former, an unanimous vote was passed thanking you for the able manner in which you had performed the duties of your office.—

The Members desire also to express to you by that vote, that, they gratefully remember the important influence you have exerted in behalf of the Committee. the subscriptions you have obtained, the donations you have made, and above all the facilities

Maynard, James Murray, Noah Ripley, M. Rudsdale, G. W. Ryckman, B. C. Sanders, C. G. Scott, T. J. L. Smiley, C. R. Story, A. B. Stout, J. E. Sweetser, J. M. Swift, E. Thebaud, W. N. Thompson, G. R. Ward, J. C. Ward, J. C. L. Wadsworth, F. A. Woodworth, S. E. Woodworth.

[March 17, 1852]

you have extended at times when an exhausted Treasury threatened to cripple its exertions.— Always prominent, ever active in whatever conduced to the best interests of the Association, and of the Public which it represented; accepting willingly those responsibilities which fell so heavily upon the individuals composing it; courteous and liberal in the discharge of the duties of your office; the announcement of your approaching departure was listened to with sincere regret.—

Assuring you of their esteem, your Associates wish for *you* a continuance of that prosperity which you so well become, and for *themselves* an early reunion with one whose worth they have proved, and whose excellent qualities they cannot too highly appreciate.—

I am dear Sir,

Respectfully Your Ob^t Serv^t

[...]

Secretary of the Executive Committee of the
Committee of Vigilance

San Francisco March 1852

[Communications]

Committee rooms San Francisco March /52

Sir

You were unanimously elected a member of the Executive Committee of Committee of Vigilance on the evening of the 17th of the present month to serve for one year from the 17th of March

There will be a meeting of the Executive Committee on Wednesday evening at their Chambers at the corner of Sanson & Sacramento St over Mess Middleton & Smileys auction room.

You are requested to be punctual

By order of Committee

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

San Francisco March 19. 1852

Isaac Bluxome Jr Esq

Secretary of Executive Committee of Committee of Vigilance—

Sir. Yours of March 18th was received informing me of

[March 17, 1852]

my election as member of the Executive Committee of Committee of Vigilance—

I regret that I am not able to serve as my family are with me and I am compelled to be with them as much as possible

Respectfully Yours

[Signed] Joseph E. Sweetser

[Annotated:] Excused from serving on Com

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee March 24. 1852

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the Chair

Mr I Bluxome Jr be appointed Secy of the meetin

On motion of Mr G R Ward

that the Secy be requested to notify the members of the Com that there will be a meeting on Wednesday evening next at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 oc that officers will be elected &c

On motion the meeting Adjourned

[Signed] I Blux Jr
Secy

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Communications]

Vigilance Com Rooms San Fran 25 March '52

Sir

On the 17th Inst you were unanimously elected a member of the "Executive" for the ensuing year.

A meeting of the executive will be held on Wednesday next at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ P. M. at the rooms over Middleton & Smiley's which you are requested to attend

By order

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secy

[Addressed:]

R Hockofler
Present

[March 24, 1852]

Vigilance Comittee Room Mch 25. 1852

Sir.

On the 17th Inst you were unanimously elected a member of the Executive for the ensuing year

A meeting of the Executive will be held at their rooms over Middleton & Smilys on Wednesday evening Mch 31 at 7½ ock which you are requested to attend

By order

[Signed] I Bluxome Jr.

Secy

[Addressed:]

E Thibaut Esq

Present

 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Com March 31. 1852

Mr Selim E Woodworth called to the Chair

Mr I Bluxome appointed Secretary

On motion of G R Ward

That a meeting be called for Friday evening next the 2^d of April at ½ past 7 oc

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secy

 FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee April 2^d. 1852

Mr G W Ryckman in the chair

Minutes of former meeting read and approved

On motion of Mr Geo R Ward

Resolved that Mr Garret W Ryckman be elected President of the Executive Committee for 6 months from the 17th of March last. carried

[April 2, 1852]

On motion of Mr Geo R Ward

Resolved that Mr Selim E Woodworth be elected as 1st Vice President and Mr Eugene Delessert be elected 2^d Vice President of the Executive Committee carried

On motion

Resolved that Mr Geo R Ward be elected as treasurer and Isaac Bluxome Jr be elected as Secretary of the Executive Committee. carried

The following Gent were elected as a Finance Committee

Mr James Dows

Mr T J L Smiley

" A M Ebbets

" E M Earle

Mr Pulaski Jacks

The following Gent were elected as a Qualification Committee

Dr A B Stout

Mr Jas Murray

Mr W A Darling

" R S Lamotte

Mr Chas G Scott.

On motion of Mr Selim E Woodworth.

Resolved that a Committee of three be appointed by the President to waite upon the proprietors of the Jenny Lind & American Theatres and ascertain at what price the Theatre can be had for the purpose of giving a benefit for the Committee of Vigilance Committee S E Woodworth, E Delessert, W A Howard

On motion of Capt W A Howard

Resolved that Cap't E Gorham to fill the vacency of Mr Joseph E Sweetser resigned. elected

On motion of Mr S E Woodworth

Resolved that the Secretary advertise the watches¹ found on Spires at Sonora. and that a Committee be appointed to waite upon Mr Robert and inform him of the jewelry found Committee S E Woodworth T J L Smiley.

On motion of Mr T J L Smiley

Resolved that the Secretary address a note to John C

¹ In the papers of June 3 there appeared a description of a gold watch which had been found, and awaited its owner at the rooms of the Vigilance Committee. The notice was subscribed by Isaac Bluxome, Jr., Secretary.

[April 2, 1852]

Hays informing him that Mess Jas Dows, Jas M Swift and S E Woodworth were appointed a committee and empowered to have lein of Committee of Vigilance recorded in their names²

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Resolution]

Resolved, that the Chair appoint a Committee of five to negotiate with one of our respectable Theaters, for a Benefit for the relief of the funds of the Vigilance Committee, and report to Ex Com

[Signed] Selim E Woodworth

[Annotated:] Adopted

E. Gorham	G W. Ryckman	Stout
Delessert	S E Woodworth	

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee April 7. 1852

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the chair

Minutes of former meeting read and approved

Mr Noah Ripley resigned his seat in this committee And on motion of Mr S E Woodworth, the resignation was accepted and Mr Cha^s Griswold appointed to fill the vacency

On motion of Mr S E Woodworth

Resolved that the Secretary report to the Marshall of Sonora of the proceedings of the Committee in regard to watch & jewelry found on Spires & others.

On motion of Mr Geo R Ward

Resolved that the outstanding dues of members be referred to committee on finance and that the committee have full power to settle the amounts due to committee

² The editor has found no record of such a lien.

[April 7, 1852]

Resignation of Mr Pulaski Jacks received & accepted and
Secretary directed to give Mr Jacks a written leave of absence

On motion Adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Resignation of Noah Ripley*]

San Francisco April 7th 1852

Isaac Bluxome Esq Secretary

Dr Sir I received Your note, informing me of my Election,
as one of the "Executive Committee." Please express to the
Vigilance Committee, my grateful acknowledgements for this
mark of their Esteem & assure them that I am with them Heart,
Hand, & Purse, in their commendable efforts to suppress and
punish Crime, but a sense of duty to my family, from whom I
have been seperated for two Years, & who will shortly arrive,
compels me to decline the Honor Confer'd on me

Your Obedt Serv^t

[Signed] Noah Ripley

[Annotated:] Chas Griswold elected in place of N Ripley

[Addressed:]

Isaac Bluxome Esq.

Secretary

[*Resignation of Pulaski Jacks*]

San Francisco April 7th 1852

Isaac Bluxome Jr Esq Secretary of Committee of Vigilance

Dear Sir Expecting soon to visit the Atlantic States, I
hereby tender my resignation as member of the Executive and
Finance Committees, and respectfully request leave of absence
from the General Committee of Vigilance for an indefinite period.

Respy. Yours

[Signed] Pulaski Jacks.

[Annotated:] granted and a letter be written him by the Secy

[April 7, 1852]

[Resignation of Isaac Bluxome]

San Francisco April 7, 1852

To the President and Gent of the Executive Committee

I hereby beg leave to tender my resignation as Secretary of this Committee, as my business will not allow me to attend to the duties of the office.

Very Respectfully Your Obt Servt

Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

[Addressed:]

To the President of the Executive Committee

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee April 15. 1852

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the chair

Minutes of former meeting read & approved

Verbal report of Thatrical Committee received & accepted.

On motion of J C L Wardsworth.

Resolved that the Secretary address a letter of thanks to Mr & Mrs Thorn, Mr Maysten, Mr Smith & Madam Eleanore for the prompt manner in which they volunteered their services for the relief of the Committee of Vigilance

On motion of Mr Jas C Ward

Resolved that the Theatrical Committee have full power to make contracts with actors &c

On motion of Isaac Bluxome Jr

Resolved that Mr Jas C Ward be appointed to fill vacancy in the Committee on Theatres caused by the absence of Capt W A Howard

On motion of George R Ward

Resolved That the Chairman [have power to call the finance Com together on monday next the . . . inst at 12 oclock and lay before them the state of the funds of com and that they shall have power to act—

[April 15, 1852]

On Motion Jas Dows

On Motion Jas Murray

That R M Jessup be elected to fill vacancy of Mr Jacks
in the Ex Co & also on finance com¹]

[Signed] I Bluxome Jr

Secy

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Letter of Thanks to Madame Eleonore*]

Chambre du comité de Vigilance, San Francisco 15 Avril 1852
Madame,

Dans la dernière séance du Comité de Vigilance il a été décidé
qu'une lettre de remerciements vous serait adressée pour l'offre
aimable que vous avez bien voulu faire de contribuer par votre
talent à la représentation qui devrait avoir lieu au bénéfice du
comité de Vigilance.

Le soussigné s'empresse avec plaisir de vous témoigner la
reconnaissance du Comité et ayant appris avec regret votre
prochain départ, il vous prie d'agréer ses souhaits pour votre
voyage et votre prospérité.

Agréez, Madam, l'assurance de notre considération distinguée.
Madame Eleonore Florentin²

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee May 5, 1852

Mr Jas C Ward in the Chair.

Minutes of former meeting read and approved

One bill from *San Francisco Herald* for 12.\$ and one from
Alta California for 14\$. were presented and ordered paid.

¹ The sentences enclosed in brackets are from a draft of the minutes.

² Madame Eleonore was a member of the company that played at
the French Theatre. The Jenny Lind and the American Theatres were
also giving regular performances during this season.

[May 5, 1852]

On motion of Mr James C Ward

Resolved that a meeting of the General Committee be called together on Wednesday evening next the 12th inst*

On motion of Mr James C Ward

Resolved that a Committee be appointed to procure a building for the meeting of the General Committee and that they notify the Secretary of the place & time. Committee Mess Jas Dowd, Jas C Ward & M Ruddsdale

On motion adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr
Secretary

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[*Letters from Vigilance Committee, Mokelumne Hill*]Mokelumne Hill April 19th 52.

Mr Isaac Bluxome Jr.

Sir:— I herewith bring to your notice the case of Two Brothers named Rathgaeb from whom has been Stolen the sum of Twenty one hundred Dollars. They are miners & discovered their loss this morning. They called immediately on our Committee & from circumstances given us in a hearing to-day, Suspensions rest very Strongly on one Beiber; who is said to have left this place on Friday last & it is presumed has made his way to San Francisco

One of the parties who have been robbed, named John Rathgaeb is going to San Francisco in pursuit. And in accordance with an action of this Committee I have given him a Letter of introduction to your Notice. If the robber has not succeeded in making his escape from San Fran^{co} This may be the means of restoring an amount the loss of which is truly a Misfortune for the parties in the case to sustain.

Beiber is a Native of Switzerland, about 35 yrs of age, 5 ft

* The following notice appeared in the papers of May 7:

"Vigilance Committee Attention! The Executive Committee have thought it advisable that the General Committee should meet during the months of May and June. The first meeting is hereby called at the old room, on Battery street, on Wednesday next, the 12th instant, at 8 o'clock P.M.
By order of the Executive Committee."

[May 5, 1852]

6 in high, light complexion, light hair & grey eyes is Stout-built.

I have the honor to remain

Your Ob't Serv't

[Addressed:]

[Signed] W^m L. Zuber

Mr Isaac Bluxome Jr.

Secretary

Sec'y of Vig^e Committee of San Francisco

C^a

Mokelomne Hill April 19th 1852.

Mr Isaac Bluxome Jr.

Sir:— The Bearer of this, Mr John Rothgaeb is a party of two Bro's from whom has been Stolen about Twenty one hundred Dollars out of their Tent between last Tuesday and this morning. The Bearer has had a hearing before this Committee & in accordance with his evidence he suspects one Beiber as the person who has Stolen the Money. He (B) left this place on Friday morning 16th Inst and it is presumed that he has probably made his way to San Francisco

Beiber, Is a Native of Switzerland 5 ft 6 in high, Light complexion, light hair & grey eyes. Stout built.

Any attention you may deem this man's case worthy of will be properly appreciated by this Committee.

I have the honor to remain

Your Ob't Serv't

[Signed] Your Ob't Serv't

[Addressed:]

W^m L. Zuber

Mr Isaac Bluxome Jr.

Secretary

Sec'y of Vig^e Committee of San Francisco

C^a

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of General Committee¹ May 12 1852

Mr Selim E Woodworth in the Chair

Mr E M Earle stated the object of the meeting to be to collect money for [. . .]

¹ Drafts of minutes of meetings on May 12 and 26 are preserved in the files, but are not copied in the book of proceedings.

[May 12, 1852]

On motion of Jas C Ward

That each member of the Com present call on the Secy and giving in their names for the purpose of ascertaining those present

On motion of Jas C Ward

That the members of the Com patrol the City and report all disorderly houses and suspicious persons to the Ex Com carried

On motion G W Ryckman

That a Com be appointed by the chair to [. . .]

On motion Mr Delessert

That on the 9th of June a Grand Dinner be given by the members¹

A vote of thanks to Capt Chavin[?] for use of room and Secy address the letter [. . .]

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

[Letter from Thomas Hinigan]

San Francisco, May 12th 1852

To the Executive of the Committee of Vigilance

Gentlemen By name, doubtless, I am known to you all, though my personal acquaintance extends only to a few of your General Committee. From the first formation of your honorable body, (though not a member) I have taken an active part in your promulgated measures, and as Marine Reporter for the *Alta California*, gave every information in my power to those members of your Committee appointed to inspect vessels arriving from Sydney. On my recent visit to the Australian Colonies,² I felt it my duty to defend the Vigilance Committee of this City, from the tirades of abuse and slander hurled against them, and having now returned with the intention of making California my home, would wish to assist you in your praiseworthy object, should you

¹ The Committee was organized June 9, 1851. The San Francisco papers did not report that an anniversary dinner was held in '52.

² In the *Sydney Morning Herald*, November 8, 1851, Thomas Hinigan replied, at great length, to the complaints of Captain Harris, of the *Timandra* (see note 6, p. 147). He gave a clear account of conditions in San Francisco, and strongly defended the work done by the Committee of Vigilance.

[May 12, 1852]

consider me a fit and proper person to be associated with you. It has been stated by an anonymous writer of a paper in this City (now defunct) that I am the son of a Sydney Convict and born in the Colonies. From papers, however, in my possession I can shew that I was born in London England, that far from my father being a convict, he was never in the Colonies; that I emigrated with my mother and Uncle to South Australia in the year 1839, that having lost my Mother in Adelaide in 1842, I proceeded to Sydney— there completed my servitude as apprentice to the Printing business, and subsequently became Marine Reporter for the *Sydney Morning Herald*, which situation I resigned to come to this country. Almost immediately on my arrival I declared my intention of becoming an American citizen (now upwards of two years since) and can shew from a certificate from the Proprietors of the *Alta California*, that I conducted myself with honesty and ability during the eighteen months I was connected with them. I am now connected with Messrs Southgate & Co— In conclusion I beg to say that I believe I can give you much information & assistance if you place confidence in me, and beg to subscribe myself

Your Obedient Servant

[Signed] Thomas Hinigan

[Addressed:]

To the Executive Committee of Vigilance
San Francisco

[Memorandum on back:] Brig *Gulnare* Sydney 30 old
convicts

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Ex Com May 26. 1852

Mr G W Ryckman in the Chair

The meeting was notified that the building now occupied by this Com was about to be pulled down and that it is necessary for the Com to move from the building

On motion of I Blux Jr

That a Com be appointed to select a proper room and

[May 26, 1852]

attend to the moving of the furniture Com Jas Murray &
J C L Wardsworth

[Memorandum on back:] A L Tubbs 7 ms—

J P Corrigan 8 mos

M R Roberts 4 ms

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1852

MINUTES

Meeting of Executive Committee June 30. 1852

Mr G W Ryckman in the Chair.

The following resolution was passed unanimously.

That Mr E M Earle is fully authorised to receive from each member of the select Committee who were instructed to collect funds for the purpose of liquidating the debts of the Committee of Vigilance all the funds now in their hands—and to pay the same over to Mr E Cook—the Counsel employed to defend the action brought by Metcalf against the members of this body—to the amount of Five hundred dollars—and to hold the ballance in his hands subject to the order of the Executive Committee.

The above resolution was given to Mr E M Earle signed by Mr G W Ryckman & I Bluxome Jr.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1852

MINUTES

Minutes of Executive Committee¹ Nov 26, 1852

Mr G W Ryckman in chair

On motion of S E Woodworth,

Mr G W Ryckman was elected president of Ex Com

¹ The record in the Secretary's book closed with the entry for June 30, but among the loose papers are a draft of minutes for November 26, and a report of the examination of a prisoner suspected of arson. The newspapers of that period reported an increase of crime in San Francisco, and an alarming number of fires, several of which seemed to be of incendiary origin.

The following notice was published on November 17:

"Committee of Vigilance. The members of the Committee of Vig-

[November 26, 1852]

On motion of Capt Hy S Brown

I Bluxome Jr was elected Secretary

On motion Mr F A Woodworth

R B Hampton was elected Treasurer

On motion S E Woodworth

That a qualification & Finance [committee] be appointed by the President

R B Hampton Chairman of Com on rooms reported that a room over Mr Noah Ripley for 50\$ or two rooms for 100\$.

On motion F A Woodworth

That no further action be had in the matter of hiring a room, and that the Com on rooms be empowered to obtain the use of one of the Engine Buildings

On motion S E Woodworth.

That a vote of thanks be given to Mr Geo R Ward for the faithful performance of his duty as Treasurer of the Committee

On motion Adjourned

[Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr

Deposition of Charles Talbot

Arrested on Charge of "Arson." Nov. 25th 1852

By N^o 1

Chas. Talbot, 21 years of age, Frenchman by birth, born at "Chartres," I am in the employ of Valliant & Brasseur, Wine and Liquor Merchants in Merchant Street. Mr Brasseur

ilance of the city of San Francisco are requested to meet on Friday Evening, the 19th inst., at half past seven o'clock, at the store of Messrs. Middleton and Smiley, corner of Sacramento and Battery streets, as business of vital importance to the community will be brought before the meeting. A full attendance both of the Executive and General Committees is particularly desired.

S. E. Woodworth, President
Isaac Bluxome, Jr., Secretary."

The *Herald* of the 25th reported that: "On the evening of November 24 a fire was discovered in the lower story of the fine block of brick buildings on the south side of Merchant street, above Montgomery. . . . The U. S. District Court is held on the second floor, and many valuable documents are contained in the vault." The fire was suppressed with difficulty, owing to a quantity of liquor stored on the premises. This was the case considered by the Committee on the 26th; and as the name of Charles Talbot did not appear in the law reports as accused of arson, it is probable that he was discharged.

[November 26, 1852]

was the last person in the Store, I left at 6 P. M. and did not return again to the Store, until I heard the Alarm of Fire, I started at the first tap of the Bell,—Mr Brasseur was at the door of the Store when I reached there, and he opened the Door—I live in the same house with Mr Valliant, I see him every day—I saw him in the afternoon of the same day in the Store, he came in to change his shoes, having a pair of new ones in his hand, and requested me to take the old ones to his house Mr Valliant is still associated with Mr Brassur but has been ejected, and their difficulties are still in litigation—Never have heard any threats of violence from Mr Valliant towards Mr Brasseur.

San Francisco Nov. 25th 1852

[Signed] Charles talbot

Witnessed by [. . .]

*Deposition of Jule Decase**Witness against Chas Talbot Arrested for Arson Nov 25th**By No. 1st*San Francisco Nov. 25th 1852.—

My name is Jule Descase: am a Frenchman 24 Years Old, born at Bordeaux—I arrived in this country in Sept^r 1851. on board French Ship *Alceon*, from Bordeaux I was employed by Mr Brassur on Wednesday the 24th Nov. at 2 P. M. for a few hours only to arrange things about the Store.—I left the Store about 6 P. M. I do not know who set Fire to the Store,—I have known the person called Charle Talbot, as the only employe about the Store of Mr Brasure, for about 6 months I am employed at the manufactory in "Stockton Street,"—The only time I heard the subject of Fire mentioned, was in the evening a few minutes before my leaving the premises, Mr Brassur was drinking Absent with some friend lately arrived in the French schooner *Independence* I observed that I thought I smelt something burning—some one replied that it was only a piece of paper with which I have lighted my segar,—there was a Candle burning at the time near the Door,—Charles & myself left about 6 P. M. leaving Mr Brasur and his friends inside the Store, they consisted of four passengers and himself Mr Brassur, When I

[November 26, 1852]

left they were smoking segars and the Candle burning—It is quite practicable to pass from the adjoining Store to the Store of Mr Brassur, by means of the Windows in the rear,—or by the Cellar,—

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS AND VOUCHERS

CASH ACCOUNTS

Dr. J. W. Salmon, Treasurer, in account current with the
Vigilance Committee

To private Subscriptions collected by me	\$012.00
" 2 Initiation fees	10.00
" Cash handed me per Sergeant At Arms (\$498.57)	498.57
" Cash handed me per Sergeant At Arms (\$254.50)	254.50

\$1671.07

* This check mark notes a discrepancy between Salmon's figures and those of McDuffie (see p. 783). The correction is in DeLacey's hand writing.

CASH ACCOUNTS

To private Subscriptions collected by me		\$913.00
“ 2 Initiation fees		10.00
“ Cash handed me per Sergeant At Arms	(\$498.57)	494.47*
“ Cash handed me per Sergeant At Arms	(255.18)	254.50

\$1671.97

* This check mark notes a discrepancy between Salmon's figures and those of McDuffie (see p. 765). The correction is in Delessert's handwriting.

[1851]

J. W. SALMON, Treasurer, in account current with the Cr.
Vigilance Committee

1*	To paid Sergeant at Arms, as per order	\$ 50.00
2	" " to Capt Wakeman, as per order, Waterpolice	50.00
3	" " Rent, as per order	400.00
4	" " Expences to Angel Island, as per order	36.50
5	" " Sargeant at Arms, as per order, a/c of salary	100.00
6	" " Capt Wakeman, as per order, Waterpolice	479.24
7	" " Herald's a/c Handbills, as per order	30.00
8	" " Carpenters on a/c, as per order	400.00
9	" " 1 Anchor lost, as per order	12.75
10	" " profit & loss cash short in change	1.00
11	" " Cheque favor of my successor E. Delessert, Esq.	112.48
		<hr/>
		\$1671.97
		<hr/>

San Francisco, 7 July, 1851

[Signed] J. W. Salmon
ex Treasurer

* Each expenditure, in the accounts of Salmon and Delessert, is numbered to correspond with a number assigned to its voucher, as filed by Delessert. To facilitate reference from the body of the papers, consecutive numbers have been given, by the editor, to the vouchers of Ward and McDuffee.

In printing the accounts and vouchers, it has seemed wise to supply punctuation, and to modify abbreviations, as might be necessary to avoid irritating confusion.

Dr. EUGENE DELESSERT, Treasurer, in account with the
Committee Vigilance Committee

No.	July 1	To Amt recd from Sergeant at Arms	\$ 1.80	\$200.00
1	" 10	" do do do	10.00	903.11
2	" 10	" " " " J. W. Salmon	58.00	112.48
3	" 14	" " " " Sargeant at Arms	192.00	663.50
4	" 19	" " " " Sergeant at Arms	100.00	291.00
5	" 19	" " " from The Executive Cte	25.00	25.00
6	" 19	" " " do do for the effort	50.00	50.00
7	" 19	" " " fees, Randall	185.00	185.00
8	" 14	" " Donation, Flint & Peabody	100.00	100.00
9	" 18	" " Charles Gulliver	100.00	100.00
10	" 18	" " Roberts, No. 448	5.00	5.00
11	" 19	" " " Payran	50.00	50.00
12	" 12	" " Do Cahun [Calhoun?]	50.00	50.00
13	" 5	" " " MacDuffee	163.69	163.69
14	August	" " " do	86.15	86.15
15	" 23	" " " do	150.00	150.00
16	" 10	" " " do	100.00	100.00
17	" 8	" " " do	117.00	117.00
18	" 10	" " " do	100.00	100.00
19	June 28	" " Dewey, collecting dues	130.00	130.00
20	July 5	" " " "	112.25	112.25
21	" 5	" " " "	66.50	66.50
22	" 5	" " " "	55.00	55.00
23	" 8	" " " "	25.00	25.00
24	" 10	" " " "	30.00	30.00
25	" 3	" Voluntary contributions	145.00	145.00
26	" 10	" F. Pantin, 251	10.00	10.00
27	June 26	" A. G. Connell, Collectg contr	276.00	276.00
28	July 2	" " " "	219.50	219.50
29	" 2	" " " "	216.00	216.00
30	" 5	" " " "	160.00	160.00
31	" 5	" " " "	17.30	17.30
				\$4897.18

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF 1851 755
[1851]

EUGENE DELESSERT, Treasurer, in account with the Cr.
Committee of Vigilance

No.		By Amt paid to J. W. Salmon	\$	1.50
1	July			
2	" 10	" " paid to Mandot for stamp		10.00
3	" 16	" " Pioneer Club, as per note		58.00
4	" 14	" " Boat hire, as per note		192.00
5	" 19	" " passage A. Wright, <i>Cameo</i> , Sydney		100.00
6	" 19	" " trip to Sacr. as per Bill		25.00
7	" 19	" " Expenses in Sacramento for the arrest of B. Kay		109.00
8	" 14	" " Steam Tug & Co. Use of Boat		100.00
9	" 16	" " H. A. Cheever & Bullett, for rent		400.00
10		" " Expenses of Rider, Reynolds & Mc Duffee		196.50
11	" 19	" " Expenses to Sacramento		10.00
12	" 12	" " To & from Stockton by H. Howard & Oakes		36.50
13	" 5	" " To Clark & Simpsen, three saddles horses		15.00
14	" 23	" " To A. Oaksmith		17.00
15	" 19	" " To James R. Travers & Co carriage hire		16.00
16	" 8	" " Mc Duffee, services rendered		150.00
17		" " <i>Pacific Star</i>		33.75
18	June 28	" " <i>Herald</i>		21.00
19	July 5	" " Grover & Co. <i>Evening picayune</i>		52.00
20	"	" " To Geo. Shaw & Co.		60.80
21	" 3	" " " Gay & Mellers		46.50
22	" 8	" " Shirley & Bayley		31.50
23	" 10	" " Cook & Le Count		19.25
24	" 3	" " Maxham & Co. 4 Daguerreotypes		24.00
25	" 10	" " Taaffe & Mc Cahill		116.00
26	June	" " A. Wardwell		195.00
27	July 2	" " Gorman Elliott, Carpenter		201.84
28	" 2	" " Cook & Lecount		22.00
29	" 5	" " R. Medberg, Posting Bills		12.00
30	" 5	" " Boat hire		17.50
31	" 3	" " Clark & Simpson, carriages		25.00
				<hr/>
				\$2314.64

Dr. EUGENE DELESSERT, Treasurer, in account with the
Committee of Vigilance

		[Corrected in pencil]*	7
32 July 18	By Amt paid to Clark Simpson & Co		\$4897.18
33 " 8	To Amt Reed from Dewey	30.00	35.00
34 June 28	" " " A. G. Connell	10.00	140.00
35 July 31	" " " " Cash	180.00	236.29
36 " 8	" " " " "	42.00	50.00
37 " 8	" " " Amt sale Cobb	50.00	247.63
38 " 22	" " " Amt sale lumbers	100.00	72.60
39 " 28	" " " A. G. Connell	234.44	200.00
40 Aug 11	" " " A. G. Connell	135.00	45.00
41 Aug 20	" " " I. Bluxom, Mellus	160.25	10.00
42 Sept 11	" " " do dues	20.00	5.00
43 " 12	" " " do dues	225.00	16.00
44 " 12	" " " Certificates 711-349-237	300.00	15.00
45 " 17	" " " Jessups, Collect	10.00	134.50
46 July 8	" " " Argenti, Cert	50.00	5.00
47 Sept 18	" " " Jessups, Cert	25.00	5.00
48 Aug 2	" " " Wards & Bro.	12.00	10.00
49 July 21	" " " Certificat 328-137	200.00	10.00
50 Sept 23	" " " Dues	10.00	10.00
51 " 25	" " " Certificats	100.00	35.00
52 " 26	" " " do 127	27.00	5.00
53 July	" " " dues	62.40	7.50
54 Sept 25	" " " Hart, 43, Cert	121.00	5.00
55 July 12	" " " Geor G. Ward collect	22.00	176.00
56 Sept 27	" " " do do	11.25	26.00
57 July 14	" " " I. Bluxome	49.50	79.00
58 " 16	" " " C. Martin	20.00	10.00
59 " 2	" " " Charles Case, Certs	25.00	5.00
60 Aug 5	" " " I. Bluxome	25.00	230.00
61 Oct 15	" " " I. Bluxome, secretary's fee	100.00	
62 Sept 29	" " " Ryan & Hall	45.00	
			\$6622.75
		[Corrected in pencil]*	\$6622.70

* Delessert altered, in pencil, the amount forwarded, making it one hundred dollars less than the footing of the preceding page. This justified the total of \$6622.70, but left a discrepancy in his accounts.

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF 1851 757
[1851]

EUGENE DELESSERT, Treasurer, in account with the Cr.
Committee of Vigilance

			\$2314.64
32	July 10	By Amt paid to Clark Simpson & Co.	25.00
33	" 8	" " Bills [boat] hire	20.00
34	June 26	" " <i>Herald</i>	30.00
35	July 21	" " Geo. Hopkins, passage money	100.00
36	" 8	" " Bailey & Gilbert	43.50
37	" 8	" " G. Pfistor, services for commtee	50.00
38	" 22	" " H. Miller, traveling expenses	100.00
39	" 28	" " McDuffee fees	234.44
40	Aug. 11	" " Steamer <i>Ohio</i> , passage sheriff	135.00
41	Aug. 20	" " Oscar Smith	160.25
42	Sept. 11	" " Carriage hire	50.00
43	" 13	" " Passages money for prisoners	225.00
44	" 13	" " Bullitt, Patrick & Dow	300.00
45	" 17	" " Geo. Whitney, tables	10.00
46	July 8	" " E. H. Jones & Co.	20.50
47	Sept. 16	" " <i>California Courier</i>	25.00
48	Aug. 2	" " <i>Alta California</i>	18.00
49	July 21	" " Oriental Hotel	200.00
50	Sept. 23	" " Geo. Pfistor, servant	10.00
51	" 25	" " Oakley, fees	100.00
52	" 26	" " <i>Morning post</i>	37.00
53	July	" " Geo. Shaw & Co	52.40
54	Sept. 25	" " Geo. Pfistor, servant's fees	137.00
55	July 12	" " Johnson & Co., Horses hire	20.00
56	Sept. 25	" " Bluxome, candles	17.32
57	July 14	" " Gay & Mellers	49.50
58	" 16	" " Club House, Gin & brandy	58.00
59	" 2	" " Baker & Messerve	35.60
60	Aug. 5	" " Taaffe & McCahill	26.00
61	Oct. 15	" " I. Bluxome, secretary's fee	100.00
62	Sept. 29	" " Ryan & Duff	45.00
			\$4749.15

[1851-1852]

Dr. EUGENE DELESSERT, Treasurer, in account with the
Committee of Vigilance

63 Nov. 11	By Amount pd to Wood & Co.	\$6622.75
64 " 14	" Ch. Hoffman	2.00
65 " 25	" S. Rosenfeld	4.20
66 Oct. 21	" Middleton, 2 months rent	114.00
67 Nov. 24	" Rent	32.00
68 " 24	" Do	104.00
69 Jan. 5	" J. D. Blum, candles	7.00
70 Sept.	" Harold	50.00
71 Oct. 1	" Do	5.00
72 " 13	" Do	5.00
73 Nov. 19	" Green & Stevenson, carriage	30.00
74 July 23	" E. Bowen, way to San Mateo	11.00
75 Sept. 5	" G. H. Mellett, San Mateo	43.00
76 July 18	" Rent hire	5.00
77 " 18	" Do	13.00
78 Oct. 22	" G. D. Blum, candles	18.40
79 Nov. 15	" Case, Hoke & Co.	16.00
80 Sept. 28	" Baker, 100 Moser's	73.00
81 Oct. 21	" Rent hire	12.00
82 " 15	" Cook & Larnet	45.00
83 Oct. 7	" Do	33.63
84 Nov.	Informants committee for collecting	168.50
85 Jan.	Certificate of membership	120.00
86 Sept.	best hire as per bill	145.00
87 " 19	best hire do do	183.00
88 Nov. 6	best hire do do	98.00
89	Oakley, Sept at arms	130.00
90	do do	36.00
91 Sept. 22	Gavett, Glendale	20.00
92	L. Blum, fuel	200.00
93	Ref. for transportation	40.00

\$6622.75

[Annotated:] Correct to this date Feb'y 11/32

[Signed:] Geo. B. Ward

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF 1851 759
[1851-1852]

EUGENE DELESSERT, Treasurer, in account with the Cr.
Committee of Vigilance

				\$4749.15
63 Nov. 11	By Amount	pd to Wood & Cook		50.00
64 " 14	"	Ch. Bertrand		21.00
65 " 25	"	S. Rosenthal		4.20
66 Oct. 21	"	Middleton, 2 months rent		110.00
67 Nov. 24	"	Rent		50.00
68 " 24	"	Do		100.00
69 Jan. 5	"	J. D. Bluxome, candles		7.00
70 Sept.	"	<i>Herald</i>		50.00
71 Oct. 1	"	Do.		9.00
72 " 13	"	Do		6.00
73 Nov. 19	"	Green & Bowsman, carriage		35.00
74 July 23	"	E. Bowen, trip to Saucelito		11.00
75 Sept. 5	"	G. H. Mallett, horse hire		45.00
76 July 18	"	Boat hire		5.00
77 " 18	"	Do		18.00
78 Oct. 22	"	G. D. Bluxome, candles		18.40
79 Nov. 15	"	Case, Heiser & Co.		16.00
80 Sept. 30	"	Baker [&] Messerve		33.00
81 Oct. 21	"	Boat hire		12.00
82 " 15	"	Cook & Lecount		46.00
83 Oct. 7	"	Do Do		38.63
84 Nov.		Differentes commiss. for collecting		163.50
85 Jan.		Certificates of membership		150.00
86 Sept.		boat hire as per Bill		145.00
87 " 19		boat hire do do		133.00
88 Nov. 6		boat hire do do		98.00
89		Oakley, Sergt at arms		130.00
90		do do		50.00
91 Sept. 22		Gavett, Girandole		30.00
92		I. Bluxome, fees		200.00
93		Safe for the committee		40.00
				<hr/>
				\$6572.88

[Annotated:] Correct to this date Feby 11/52

[Signed] Geo. R. Ward

760 ACADEMY OF PACIFIC COAST HISTORY
[1851-1852]

Dr. EUGENE DELESSERT, Treasurer, in account with the
Committee of Vigilance

							\$6622.75
Feb. 12	To Amt	Recd of	Geo. Ward				30.00
" "	" "	" "	"	I. Bluxome			12.00
" 26	" "	" "	"	J. R. Ward, collect			221.00
" "	" "	" "	"	do	do		60.00
" "	" "	" "	"	Pulaski Jacks			225.00
" 27	" "	" "	"	do	do	do	50.00
" "	" "	" "	"	do	do	do	50.00
" "	" "	" "	"	do	do	do	55.00
" "	" "	" "	"	Oakley			45.67
" 28	" "	" "	"	do	by	Bluxome	12.50
Brought over							\$7383.92
Due to the Treasurer							317.88
"	Different	Lawyer		1500.			
"	Bills,	Ellis		100.			
"	"	Bluxome		100.			
"	"	"		50.			
Due							\$1750.
							<u>\$7701.80</u>

[Annotated.] Correct to No. 100
[Signed] Geo. E. Ward

	Brought over		\$7383.92
	G. Warde		25.00
	No. 345, [Jas. Murray]		60.00
	I. Buxome		102.50
	Balce due E. Delessert		220.38
			<u>\$7791.80</u>

San Feo 1st April 1852

[Signed] Eug. Delessert
Treasurer

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF 1851 761
[1851-1852]

EUGENE DELESSERT, Treasurer, in account with the Committee of Vigilance		Cr.
		\$6572.88
94	Sargeant at arms	25.00
95	Millen Griffeths, steam tug	125.00
96	Picayune	14.50
97	Rent, feby	50.00
98	To Oakley Sergt at Arms	100.00
98	" "	71.00
98	" "	45.67
98	" "	50.00
98	" "	40.00
98	" "	50.00
98	" "	150.00
98	" "	20.00
98	" 816 Service up to 24th Jany	252.50
98	" Bluxome	12.50
99	Woodworth trip to San Jé	42.00
100	March Water Bill	16.75
101	" Gay & Mellus	44.00
102	" Cook & Lecounte	20.00

\$7701.80

[Annotated:] Correct to No. 102
[Signed] Geo. R. Ward

	Brought over	\$7701.80
103	Zabreski parchment Certf.	20.00

[Annotated:] Correct March 17 1852
[Signed] Geo. R. Ward

Mars 20	To Book Binder	20.00
25	Rent	50.00

\$7791.80

Dr. The Committee of Vigilance in account with GEO. R. WARD, Treasurer

April	5	By Cash of Capt Isham, 1 certif	\$ 5.00
"	15	" " " T. Gihon, 1 certif	5.00
"	17	" " " Jacks, collected	25.00
May	3	" " " Dr. Haine, 1 certif	5.00
"	5	" " " E. S. Moorhead, 1 certif	5.00
"	5	" " " Secy dues	30.00
"	8	" " " S. P. Goodale, 1 cert	5.00
"	11	" " " J. Murray, Vel Cert	25.00
"	12	" " " G. H. Howard, dues 1 May	10.00
		" " " H. F. Teschmacher, dues 1 May	10.00
		" " " Wm Hart, dues to 1 May	5.00
		" " " Col Stevenson, due to 1 May	5.00
"	12	" " " C. R. Bond, dues to 1 May	12.50
		" " " C. R. Bond, 1 cert	5.00
Dr. The Com	"	" " " S. L. Dewey, 1 cert	5.00
Sept 20	"	" " " Col. Turner, 1 cert	5.00
Nov. 24	"	" " " F. Iken, 1 cert	5.00
	"	" " " F. Franck, 1 cert	5.00
	"	" " " J. Delong, 1 cert	5.00
	"	" " " J. Dunglison, 1 cert	5.00
	"	" " " Dr. Haine, dues 1 May	5.00
	"	" " " L. D. Kinney, dues 1 May	5.00
	"	" " " W. Hazelden, dues 1 May	3.00
	"	" " " W. H. Patten, dues 1 May	3.00
	"	" " " A. C. Wakeman, dues 1 May	10.00
	"	" " " L. Maynard, dues 1 May	7.50
	"	" " " J. King of Wm, dues 1 May	7.50
	"	" " " Wm. Thompson, dues 1 May	15.00
	"	" " " C. B. Loomis, dues 1 May	10.00
"	19	" " " S. L. Dewey, dues 1 May	5.00
July	"	" " " J. M. Swift, dues 1 May	12.50
Oct. 17	"	" " " V. J. Fourgeaud, dues 1 May	20.00
May 19	By	J. F. Curtis, dues to 1 May	10.00
"	19	" L. W. Sloat, dues to 1 May	5.00
June 21	"	E. Kirkus, certif <i>not paid</i>	5.00
July 14	"	Balance due Treas	4.38

* These names do not appear in the list of members.

\$310.38

The Committee of Vigilance in account with GEO. R. WARD, Treasurer Cr.

May 12	To Cash pd rent to	\$ 50.00
" 19	" " E. Delessert, balance due him as Treasurer	
	see account	220.38
June 2	To Cash paid Rent to date	25.00
17	" Cash paid Mrs. S. E. Cole	15.00
		<hr/>
		\$ 310.38
		<hr/>

Dr. The Committee of Vigilance in account with GEO. R. WARD, Treasurer

Sept. 25	" De Behr* certif	5.00
Nov. 24	" T. H. Stevens* certif	5.00
	" C. H. West certif	5.00
		<hr/>
	Received of 72 Members for July Initiation	15.00
		325.00
		<hr/>
	Received of 215 Members for July Dues @ 50	340.00
		<hr/>
	J. W. Salmon Treasurer	
	Recd of J. L. Tolson for S. R. Church	
	Recd of Hetherington for Expenses	
	Recd Extra Monthly dues	
		Cr.
July 14	To Bce due Treasr	5.38
Oct. 17	" Cash pd J Murray for expenses of moving	10.00
	" " not paid by E. Kirkus see credit of June 21	5.00
		<hr/>
		20.38
		<hr/>

* These names do not appear in the list of members.

Memorandum of Cash Account, Including all Cash Received, and all Cash Expended, by A. J. McDUFFEE, Sergt. at Arms, for Account of the Vigilance Committee, to June 26, 1851. Inclusive.

Debit Cash

To Recd from the Treasurer	\$ 50.00
“ Recd from three hundred and six (306) members, Innetiation fee of 5.\$ each	1530.00
	<hr/>
	\$1580.00
	<hr/>

Memo.

Mr. Wardell's Bill for 2½ doz. Lamps & 1 chair, amounting to \$165.00, has not been paid, which is the only outstanding account contracted for by me. A. J. McD.

There are 518 members, 306 have paid 5\$, which leaves 5\$ due from each of 212 members, unpaid.

A. J. McDUFFEE, Sergeant at Arms, in account with Committe of Vigilance, San Francisco July 27th 1851

Debit

To Cash Received of 477 Members for June Innetiation Fees @ 5\$	\$2385.00
“ “ Received of 73 Members for July Innetiation Fees @ 5\$	365.00
“ “ Received of 216 Members for July Dues @ 5\$	1080.00
“ “ Received of 20 Members for Fines @ 5\$	100.00
“ “ J. W. Salmon Treasurer	50.00
“ “ Recd of J. L. Folsom for S. R. Church	30.00
“ “ Recd of Hetherington for Expenses	20.00
“ “ Recd Extra Monthly dues	15.00
	<hr/>
	\$4045.00
	<hr/>

There is now due and unpaid June Innetiation Fees from 71 Members @ 5\$	355.00
There is now due July Innetiation fees from 9 Do 5\$	45.00
There is now due July Assessment from 336	1680.00
	<hr/>
Total Amt due not including Fines	2080.00

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF 1851 765
[1851]

Memorandum of Cash Account, Including all Cash Received, and all Cash Expended, by A. J. McDUFFEE, Sergt. at Arms, for Account of the Vigilance Committee, to June 26, 1851. Inclusive.

	Cash Credit
To Paid in the hands of the Treasurer, per order,	
Current coin	\$406.98
Uncurrent do	95.00
	<hr/> 501.95
Said money reed as	\$498.57
“ Paid sundry Bills & for sundries as per Cash Book	826.25
Balance on Hand	255.18
	<hr/> \$1580.00 <hr/>

San Francisco, June 26th, 1851

[Signed] A. Jackson McDuffee

Sergt at Arms

Approved [Signed] R. S. Watson, Geo. R. Ward, J. W. Salmon,
Eug. Delessert, Wm. H. Jones, Finance Committee

A. J. McDUFFEE, Sergeant at Arms, in account with Committe of
Vigilance, San Francisco July 27th 1851

		Credit
June 20	By Cash Paid J. W. Salmon, Treasurer	\$ 498.57
“ 26	“ “ “ J. W. Salmon, Treasurer	255.18
“ 26	“ “ “ Sundry Bills and room Expenses as approved by Finance Comt	826.25
July 8	“ “ “ E Delessert, Treasurer	663.50
“ 19	“ “ “ E Delessert, Treasurer	200.00
“ 23	“ “ “ E Delessert, Treasurer	903.11
“ 26	“ “ “ E Delessert, Treasurer	291.00
	“ “ “ George his Services on a/c	60.00
	“ “ “ Sundry Bills to this date as approved by Finance Comt	112.95
	Balance on Hand	234.44
		<hr/> \$4045.00 <hr/>

San Francisco, July 27th 1851

[Signed] A. J. McDuffee

Sergeant at Arms

REPORTS OF THE TREASURER

EUGENE DELESSERT, Treasurer, in account with Committee of Vigilance,
San Francisco, July 28th, 1851

Debit

To Cash Received of Salmon	\$112.48
" " " Sargeant at Arms	200.00
" " " do do	903.11
" " " do do	663.50
" " " do do	291.00
	<hr/>
	\$2170.09
" " Advanced by the Treasurer	513.05
	<hr/>
E. E.	2683.14
	<hr/>

Bills Due on Hand

1 Oriental Hotel	\$200.00
2 Herald	11.25
3 Boat Hire	288.00
4 Boat Hire	5.00
5 Gay & Mellus, cheeses &c	49.45
6 Green & Brown, horses	30.00
7 E. H. Jones, Esq.	23.50
	<hr/>
	607.20

Due to the Treasurer	\$513.05
Due to Divers	607.20

Amount due \$1120.25

Jail Funds

Received from 131 members \$4385.00

[Annotated:] Sept. 8th 4484.00

San Francisco, 29th July, 1851

[Stamp] Eugene Delessert, Treasurer

Statement of the Treasurer

Bills due

Boatmen	\$401.00
Mr Malony & friends, travelling expenses to Marisville	150.00
Carpenter	44.50
Carriage	15.00
Gay & Mellus, different Bills	95.40
Morning post	37.00
Herald	58.00
Taaffe & MacCahill	26.00
Schmith, expenses to Sonora <i>paid</i>	160.25
Jones	20.50
Oriental hotel	200.00
Herald	11.25
Gay & Mellus	49.45
Boat hire	5.00
Green & Brown	30.00
Boat hire	139.00
Baker & Messerve	35.00
Bowen, expenses to Sa[ucelito]	11.00
Rent	300.00

\$1788.35

By Cash in hand

491.79

Amount of Bills due

\$1296.56

San Francisco, 9 September

[Signed] Eug Delessert, Treasurer

Jail funds amount to \$4484.00

[1851]

Dr.

EUGENE DELESSERT, Treasurer, in account with the
Committee of Vigilance

Sept 13—51

To Cash of the Executive Committee	\$ 75.00
“ “ July fees & fines, of Randall	185.00
“ “ presented by Flint & Peabody	100.00
“ “ presented by C Gulliver	100.00
“ “ of 448, Mr Roberts	5.00
“ “ presented by Mr Chauviteau	50.00
“ “ presented by D Cahoon	50.00
“ “ presented by E. Delessert	200.00
“ “ July dues & fines, of McDuffie	163.69
“ “ Aug dues & fines	86.15
“ “ dues & fines	150.00
“ “ July dues & fines	100.00
“ “ Aug dues & fines	100.00

\$1364.84

Sept. 13 To Cash on hand

\$351.54

E. E. San Francisco Sept 13th 1851

[Signed] Eug Delessert

Treasurer

July 29 By Balance due on old a/c	Cr. \$513.05
“ Cash pd. Expenses of Sheriff of San Diego	135.00
“ Cash pd on a/c Bill of Oriental	5.00
“ “ “ Oscar Smith for Travelling Expenses	160.25
“ “ “ Carriage hire to Petrovitz by resolution of Genl Com	50.00
“ “ “ Boat hire in a/c No 3 [E. Gorham]	150.00
“ “ “ on hand	351.54

\$1364.84

VOUCHERS OF THE TREASURERS AND THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

VOUCHERS OF J. W. SALMON, Treasurer

1

\$50

J. W. Salmon Esq., Treasurer

Please pay A. J. MacDuffee, Sergeant-at-Arms, Fifty Dollars to be accounted for by him

[Signed] J. D. Stevenson, Geo. R. Ward, R. L. Watson, Committee on Finance

June 10th, 1851

[2 is missing.]

3

\$400

Reed of J. W. Salmon, Four Hundred Dollars, for 1 month's rent of Committee rooms over Stores of Bullitt, Patrick & Dow & H. A. Cheever San Francisco, June 17/51

[Signed] H. A. Cheever
" B Hall

4

The Treasurer is authorized to pay the sum of Thirty Six $50/100$ Dollars for expenses for four boatmen and refreshments for ten of Committee to Anjel Island

\$36 $50/100$ San Francisco 19 June 1851

[Signed] Wm. H. Jones, Geo. R. Ward, Finance Committee

5

\$100

J. W. Salmon Esq., Treasurer:

Please pay to A. J. McDuffie Esq., Sergeant at Arms, One Hundred Dollars on a/c of his services

[Signed] R. S. Watson, Geo. R. Ward, Wm H. Jones, Eug Delessert, Finance Committee.

[Endorsed:] Received the within amt. of One Hundred Dollars of S. W. Salmon, Treasurer. [Signed] A. Jackson McDuffie
June 26, 1851

6

Boat hire

Sunday—Boarding Bark <i>Chief</i> & going down the Harbour	\$5.00
Monday—A cruise to North beach and to the <i>Polk</i> during night	10.00
<i>White Squall</i> North beach and to the <i>Polk</i> during night	10.00
Tuesday—2 Cruises	5.00
Thursday—All day & all night	32.00
Friday—All day & all night	32.00
Sunday—One Cruise	5.00
Sunday night—11 Boats	176.00
Monday night—7 Boats	112.00
Rent of Schooner for 2 days	32.00
Provisions for Schooner actually used	50.24
Sundries expended at various times	10.00

479.24

San Francisco 23 June 1851. Recommended to Finance Committee
by E. Wakeman, Capt. of Water police

Approved [Signed] R. S. Watson, Wm. H. Jones, Eug. Delessert,
Finance Committee

Received by cheque on James King of Wm.

[Signed] E. Wakeman

[Annotated:] Mr. Salmon: Mr. Leffray[?] leaves to night at 4
O'Clock in the *C. M. Weber*

7

San Francisco June 25, 1851

Vigilance Committee To *San Francisco Herald*, Dr.
for 1000 Notices \$30.00

Reed Payment Nugent & Co.,
pr Moulthrop

8

[See No. 27.]

9

San Francisco, June 26, 1851

Mr. W. W. Baker For the "Committee of Vigilance"

85 lb Anchor 15 ets \$12.75

Approved by [Signed] Wm W Baker

Reed pay [Signed] Buckley & Morse

VOUCHERS OF EUGENE DELESSERT, Treasurer

1

Paid to J. W. Salmon, late treasurer, for a book \$1.50
[Signed] Eug D.

2

Committee of Vigilance, Dr. to Mandot
For 1 stamp & accessories \$10.00
San Francisco, July 10th 1851.
Rec'd Paym't [Signed] Mandot
Kearney St.

3

[Recorded in the treasurer's book as Pioneer Club House, \$58.00.
This seems to be for the same item as voucher No. 58.]

4

Committee of Vigilance	To J. Sullivan	Dr.
For Boat Hire		
<i>Jenny Lind</i>	$\frac{3}{4}$ day	\$12.00
" "	3 Trips	15.00
<i>Stag Hound</i>	1 trip	5.00
<i>Empire state</i>	2 trips	10.00
do do	1 day	16.00
do do	1 trip	5.00
<i>Typhoon</i>	1 day	16.00
<i>American Boy</i>	1 Trip	5.00
" "	1 Trip	5.00
<i>Two Brothers</i>	1 Trip	5.00
<i>American Boy</i>	1 Trip	5.00
<i>Typhoon</i>	1 Trip	5.00
		<hr/>
		104.00
As per Curtis Bill provisions &c &c Expedition to		
"Farallones"		63.00
For Refreshments, Boat Hire &c		25.00
		<hr/>

Correct [Signed] Edgar Wakeman
San Francisco July 14th 1851

Approved [Signed] Wm H Jones, Geo R. Ward, Geo J Oakes,
Committee of Finance

Received the above amount, 192\$ [Signed] John Sullivan

5

Received, San Francisco, July 18th, 1851, from the Vigilance Committee, through the hands of Mr A. Oaksmith, One Hundred Dollars, for the passage of Alexander Wright, above named, to the Port of Sydney, N.S.W.

\$100 00/100

[Signed] P J O C White

6

\$25 Ex. Committee room, San Francisco, July 19th, 51
Please pay Bearer Twenty five dollars, being amo. passage money of a witness from Sac. city & back in Stuarts Case—

[Signed] G. W. Ryckman, Pres. pro tem

“ J. C. L. Wadsworth, Secty. pro tem

To E. Delessert, Esq. Treas. Comm. of Vigilance

Approved [Signed] Geo R. Ward, Geo. J. Oakes, James C. L. Wadsworth

7

San Francisco, July 19th/51

Vigilance Committee To Haven & Corrigan Dr.

Expenses to Sac. City for the arrest of B. Kay & others

S. L. Haven, paid by him \$57.00

P. Corrigan do 52.00 \$109.00

5 days duty

By order of Ex. Committee [Signed] Wm. C. Graham, Secty

[Signed] James C. L. Wadsworth, Geo. R. Ward, Geo. J. Oakes,
Committee on Finance

8

San Francisco, July 14th

Vigilance Committee To Steam Tug Co. Dr.

for use of Boat \$100.00

Approved [Signed] Wm H Jones, Geo. R. Ward, Eug Delessert.

Reed Paym [Signed] Millen Griffith

9

San Francisco, July 16th, 1851

Members Vigilance Committee To H. A. Cheever & Bullitt, Patrick & Dow Dr.

For Rent of Lofts, 1 Month in advance, to August 16th,
1851, \$400.00

Approved [Signed] R S Watson, Geo. R. Ward, E. Delessert,
Committee on Finance

Reed Payment [Signed] H. A. Cheever & Co.
for H A Cheever & B. P. & Dow

10

Expenses of Rider, Reynolds & McDuffee

Special Duty

Fare of 3 to Stockton	30.00
6 Meals & Extras on board	12.75
1 Pr. Handcuffs	1.00
Bill at Stockton House	11.50
Wisconsin House	1.50
Dents Ferry	8.50
Chinees Camp	5.00
Wood Diggins	6.00
5 Suppers at Sonora	4.50
5 Breakfasts	3.75
Lodgings	2.00
Dinners	4.00
Horse Keeping & Sundries	6.00
Bill at Dents ferry	8.00
Stockton House	3.00
Horses & Carriage	66.00
Fare down	20.00
2 Suppers	3.00

 \$196.50

Correct [Signed] Wm C Graham, Secty Ex. Committee

[Signed] Eug Delessert, Wm. H. Jones, Geo. R. Ward, J. C. L. Wadsworth.

Received the above

[Signed] A. J. McDuffee

11

S. Francisco, July 19./51

The Vigilance Committee of San Francisco To J. W. Cartwright

For incidental expenses on Trip to Sacramento & back \$10.00

[Signed] E Delessert, Wm. H. Jones, Geo. R. Ward, J. C. L. Wadsworth.

Recd Payt [Signed] J. W. Cartwright

12

San Francisco, July 12th, 1851

Vigilance Committee

Dr.

For expenses incurred by Geo. H. Howard & Geo. J. Oakes
to & from Stockton by order of the Ex. Committee \$36.50Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Geo. J. Oakes, Wm. H. Jones
Committee on Finance.

Recd Payment [Signed] Geo. J. Oakes

13

Vigilance Committee to Clark & Simpson Dr.
 1851, July 5th, To Three Saddle Horses @ \$5, \$15.00
 Approved [Signed] C. H. Brinley, Secy. Ex. Com.
 Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Wm. H. Jones, Geo. J. Oakes,
 Committee
 Recd Pay't Clark & Simpson
 pr Clapp
 [Annotated:] for Stewart

14

San Francisco, July 23d/51 Dr.
 Vigilance Committee To A. Oaksmith
 for following disbursements made by him on the *Cameo*
 Expedition-viz
 July 17. 2 Bottles Brandy & 1 Bundle Segars 6.00
 18. Provisions & refreshments for 2 Parties of 6 7.00
 19 & 20 do do do do 4.00
 \$17.00

The above party were on duty five days and five nights and consisted of six men.

Approved [Signed] Eug Delessert, Wm. H. Jones, Geo. R. Ward,
 J. C. L. Wadsworth.

Recd payt [Signed] A Oaksmith

15

Captain King To James R. Travers & Co.
 1851, July 19th, To Carriage Hire for Mrs Hogan \$16.00
 [Signed] Eug Delessert, Geo. R. Ward, J. C. L. Wadsworth.
 [Signed] John Crowe & Travis
 [Annotated:] paid by MacDuffie.

16

San Francisco, July 8th 1851. Recd. from E. Delessert, Treasurer,
 One Hundred and fifty Dollars on account of Services rendered the
 Committee of Vigilance

\$150 [Signed] A. Jackson McDuffie

Approved [Signed] J. C. L. Wadsworth, Geo. R. Ward,
 E. Delessert.

17

Vigilance Committee To *Pacific Star* Dr.
 To Advertisement (Vigilance Committee Room) 5.62²
 " " Reward 4 lines 28.12²
 \$33.75

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF 1851 775

Approved [Signed] J. C. L. Wadsworth, Geo. R. Ward, E. Delessert.

Reed Payment [Signed] Sutherland, Rust & White

The above amount is presented by the *Pacific Star* Office towards the completion of the County Prison.

S. R. & W.

18

San Francisco, June 28th, 1851

Committee of Vigilance To <i>San Francisco Herald</i>	Dr.
June 25 to Card "Gallagher" $\frac{3}{4}$ sqr	2.25
" 28 " Notice to Members $\frac{3}{4}$ sqr 3 times	4.50
	<hr/>
	\$6.75
July 4 Notice to Members $\frac{3}{4}$ sq	2.25
" 9 Resolutions &c 2 sqr. 3 times	12.00
	<hr/>
	\$21.00

Approved [Signed] J. C. L. Wadsworth, E. Delessert, Geo. R. Ward.

Reed Payment Nugent & Co.

pr Moulthrop

19

San Francisco, 5 July, 1851

Committee of Vigilance To Grover & Co., <i>Evening Picayune</i> Office,	Dr.
July 5 Ad. Notice of Meeting 1 sq. 1 t.	\$2.00
" 7 Ad. Notice & resolution $2\frac{1}{2}$ sq. 1 m.	50.00
Approved [Signed] J. C. L. Wadsworth, Geo. R. Ward, E. Delessert.	
Paym't receiv'd in full—am't to be appropriated to Prison Fund	
[Signed] S. C. Russell	

20

Committee of Vigilance Bot of Geo N Shaw & Co.

1851, July, 6 Boxes Candles, 72 lbs @ 40c	\$28.80
10 Tins Crackers @ \$2.00	20.00
	<hr/>
	\$48.80
6 Tins do @ \$2.00	12.00
	<hr/>
	\$60.80

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Wm. H. Jones, E. Delessert.

Reed Payt Geo. N Shaw & Co.,

pr John Gray

21

A. J. McDuffee of Committee Room Bot of Gay & Mellus			
McD.	{ 1 Tin Mocha Coffee, 10 lbs	35	3.50
Com.	{ 6 Cheeses, 58 lbs less 6—52	25	13.00
McD.	{ 5 Galls Pale Brandy	6	30.00
			<hr/>
			\$46.50

San Francisco, July 3, 1851

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Wm. H. Jones, Eug Delessert.

Reed Payt [Signed] Gay Mellus

22

San Francisco, July 8th, 1851

Vigilance Committee Bought of Shirley & Bayley			
	2 Ewers & Basins		12.00
	½ Dozen Tumblers		2.50
	2 Water Pitchers		8.00
	1 Dz Coffees		7.00
	½ Dz Plates		2.00
			<hr/>
			\$31.50

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Wm. H. Jones, E. Delessert.

July 14th/51 Reed Payment [Signed] Shirley & Bayley

23

San Francisco, July 10, 1851

The Vigilance Committee To Cooke & LeCount			Dr.
	2 Rms. Cap paper @ \$7		\$14.00
	4 Memo. Books @ 75		3.00
	1 Memo. Book		.75
	1 doz. lead pencils		1.50
			<hr/>
			\$19.25

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Wm. H. Jones, Eug Delessert.

Reed Payment Cook & LeCount

pr. John H. Bolton

24

Vigilance Comittity To Maxham & Co.			Dr.
For Four Daguerreotype Miniatures			\$24.00

San Francisco, July 3d, 1851

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Wm. H. Jones, Geo J Oakes,

Committee

[Signed] Maxham & Co

[Annotated:] McDuffee

25

San Francisco, July 10th, 1851

Messrs Committee of Vigilance Bought of Taaffe & McCahill

4 Dz Towels @ 4\$	\$ 16.00
25 pr Blankets @ 4\$	100.00
	<hr/>
	\$116.00

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Wm. H. Jones, E. Delessert.

Reed from Mr Delessert one Hundred & Sixteen Dollars on a/c of the Vigilance Committee in full

\$116.00

[Signed] Taaffe & McCahill

San Francisco, July 11th, 1851

26

The Com of Vigilance To A. Wardwell	Dr.
1851, June, For One Arm Chair	60.00
2½ Doz Solar Lamps @ \$42	105.00
Use of Furniture	30.00
	<hr/>
	\$195.00

[Signed] McDuffee

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Wm. H. Jones, Geo. J. Oakes,
Committee

Reed Payment [Signed] A. Wardwell

27

San Francisco—June 26th, 1851

Vigilant Committee to Gardner Elliot	Dr.
1851, June 17 For 6 days work fitting up room & Benches	
	@ \$10.00 60.00
" " " 1892 ft. of Lumber @ 5½ cts	104.06
" " " 3 Doors @ \$3.50	10.50
" " " 1 Cask of nails	8.00
" 18 " 7 days work @ \$10.00	70.00
" " " 704 ft of Lumber @ 5½ cts	38.72
" " " 3 Locks @ \$3.50	10.50
" " " 1 Bell & fixtures	5.25
" " " 3 Pairs of Butts @ 25 cts	.75
" 19 " 3½ days work on table & Desk &c.	35.00
" " " 1 Handle & latch, Butts & Hooks	1.25
" " " 264 ft. of Lumber @ 5½ cts	14.52
" 20 " 3½ days work @ 10.00	35.00
" " " 1167 ft. of Lumber @ 5½ cts	64.18
" " " 1 Door	3.50
" 21 " 3 days work on Rooms & Privy @ \$10.00	30.00

No. 27 (continued) Forward			\$491.23
[June 21 For]	3½ days work at shop on Benches @	\$10.00	35.00
" " "	3 Carting @	\$1.50	4.50
" " "	2 Doors, 1 Lock & Handle & latch		11.50
" " "	873 ft. of lumber @ 5½		48.01
" " "	20 ft. of joist		1.10
" " "	1 Window		3.00
" " "	20 lbs. of wrought nails @ 25 cts		5.00
" 26 "	¼ days work putting up spout		2.50

 \$601.84

Approved [Signed] R. S. Watson, Geo. R. Ward, Eug Delessert,
Finance Committee

Reed on a/c Four Hundred dollars. S[almon]n per Co.

2 July 1851 [Signed] G. Elliot

[Annotated:] \$400 paid by Salmon, [Voucher] No. 8 201.84

Rec payment in full [Signed] G. Elliot

28

San Francisco, July 2, 1851

The Committee of Vigilance Bot of Cooke & LeCount

1 Ream Cap paper	\$6.00
½ Ream Post Paper	3.00
1 paper Clip	2.00
1 Box Congress Pens	2.50
½ doz. holders	.75
1 letter stamp	1.50
1 Box wafers	1.00
4 Packs of Official Envelopes	3.00
2 Packs of letter Envelopes	.75
Tape	.75
Sealing Wax	.75

 \$22.50

[Signed] McDuffee

Approved [Signed] Geo R Ward, Wm. H. Jones, Geo. J. Oakes,
Committee

Reed Payment [Signed] Cooke & LeCount

29

San Francisco, July 5th, 1851

Vigilance Committee To E. R. Medberg Dr.
To Posting 200 Bills \$12.00

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Wm. H. Jones, Geo J. Oakes,
Committee.

Reed Payment for E. R. Meberg [Signed] J. L. Moulthrop

30

Mr McDuffie

Pay to Bearer for Boat hire for Committee \$17.50

[Signed] A. J. Ellis

Reed the above amt. [Signed] Charles A. Wilson

31

Vigilance Committee to Clark & Simpson Dr.

1851, July 5th, To Carriage & driver \$25.00

Approved [Signed] C. H. Brindley, Secy. Ex. Com.

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Wm. H. Jones, E. Delessert.

Reed Payt Clark & Simpson
pr Clapp

32

Vigilance Committee To Clark & Simpson Dr.

1851, July 10th, To Hire of Horses & Carriage \$25.00

Approved [Signed] Geo J Oakes, Geo. R. Ward, Eug Delessert,
Committee on Finance

Reed payt Clark & Simpson
pr Clapp

33

July 8, 1851. Received from E. Delessert the sum of Twenty Dollars
in full for two Bills of Boat Hire for Vigilance Committee.

\$20.\$ [Signed] Harald Hanson

Finance Committee, V. C.

Please pay bearer Ten dollars for passage to Bark *John Potter* and
back

[Signed] J. C. Treadwell, George H. Blake, Jas. S. Wethered.

San Francisco, July 3d, 1851

Approved [Signed] Geo R Ward, Wm. H. Jones, Geo. J. Oakes,
Committee

Sergeant McDuffee

Please pay bearer (Boatman) for taking off 5 men & bringing back
5 from *John Potter*. [Signed] C. H. Brinley, 3d July.

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Wm. H. Jones, Geo. J. Oakes,
Committee

\$10.\$ Three men

34

San Francisco, June 26th, 1851

Committee of Vigilance To *San Francisco Herald*, Dr.
 200 Extra Large Posters in English, French, German
 & Spanish \$30.00

Pay [Signed] R. S. Watson, Geo. R. Ward, Eug Delessert, J. W.
 Salmon, Wm. H. Jones, Finance Committee
 Recd Pt for Nugent & Co [Signed] L. O. Putnam.

[Annotated:] Information

[It is probable that these posters advertised the reward of \$5,000
 offered for the arrest and conviction of incendiaries.]

35

\$100.00

\$100. One Hundred Dollars recd from treasurer & paid Captn Wakeman
 to defray passage &c of George Hopkins,

[Signed] Geo. R. Ward, July 21, 51

Approved [Signed] Eug Delessert, J. C. L. Wadsworth, Geo. R. Ward.

36

San Francisco, July 8th, 1851

Vigilance Comee Bot of Bailey & Gilbert
 1 Barrel Bleached Oil 30 gals @ 1.45 43.50
 Approved [Signed] J. C. L. Wadsworth, Geo. R Ward, E. Delessert.
 Recd pyt [Signed] Bailey & Gilbert

37

San Francisco, July 8, 1851

Received from E. Delessert, Treasurer of the Committee of Vigilance,
 Fifty Dollars on A/c of Services for Committee

\$50.00 [Signed] G. Pfister

Approved [Signed] J. C. L. Wadsworth, Geo. R Ward

38

San Francisco, July 22, 51

The Committee of Vigilance To C. H. Miller Dr.
 for Cash expended by him in going to and returning from Sac-
 ramento City three times for the purpose of aresting Jimmy
 from Town, Dab, Ainsworth & Geo. Adams. \$100.00
 pr order of the Executive Committee

[Signed] G. W. Ryckman, Chr. pro tem
 " Wm. C. Graham, Secy.

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, E. Delessert, J. C. L. Wadsworth,
 Geo. J. Oakes.

39

\$234.44

San Francisco, July 28, 1851

Received of E. Delessert, Treas, Two hundred and thirty four Dollars $\frac{44}{100}$ on account of Services

[Signed] A. J. McDuffee

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, E. Delessert, J. C. L. Wadsworth.

40

Vigilance Committee	To Steamer <i>Ohio</i>	Dr.
	To Passage of Sheriff & Deputy for S. Barbara	100.00
"	Whittaker	35.00
		<hr/>
		\$135.00

This bill is allowed & the Finance Committee will request the Treasurer to pay it, by order of the Executive.

Aug 12/51 [Signed] S. Payran, Presdt. of Ex. Com.

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Eug. Delessert, J. C. L. Wadsworth.

[Annotated:] paid E. D.

Reed payment [Signed] J. O. Wilkinson, Purser

[This voucher, missing from the files, is reprinted from the facsimile reproduced in Bancroft's *Popular Tribunals*, I, 338.]

41

San Francisco, Aug 20, 1851

Committee of Vigilance	To W. Oscar Smith	Dr.
	For Expenses incurred in arrest of Harriet Gardner	\$160.25
	Approved August 21, 1851 [Signed] S. Payran	
	Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, Eug Delessert, P. D. Hedley.	
	Reed payment, Sept 10th [Signed] W. Oscar Smith	

42

Vigilance Committee	To John Crow	Dr.
	To Hack hire for Fanny Seymour, on two occasions	\$35.00
	San Francisco, July 29, 51	
	Capt. Tufts	

Vigilance Committee	To Crow & Travis	Dr.
	For Carriage services on Saturday, 26th and Sunday, 27th	\$35.00
	San Francisco, Aug 2nd, 1851	

San Francisco, Sep 11th, 1851

Vigilence Committee	to Crowe & Travis	Dr.
	for Carriage hire, the sum of fifty dollars	\$50.00
	Approved by the whole committee on the 9th Sept, 1851	
	Reed the above sum from Mr Dellesert [Signed] J. R. Travis & Co.	

43

I promise to pay at Sight the sum of two hundred & twenty five dollars for acct. of the committee for passage Money of different prisoners

\$225.00

[Signed] Eug Delessert, Treasurer

San Feo 13th Sept 1851

Reed payment [Signed] James Harries [?] Master Brig Zone

By Resolution approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward, E. Delessert.

44

San Francisco, Septbr 13, 1851

Vigilance Committee Bought of Bullitt, Patrick & Dow

1 Month's Rent of Rooms occupied by them from

August 18 to Septbr 18, 1851

\$400.00

Off, presented by Mr W. H. Dow, W. N. Bullitt &

H. R. Cheever

100.00

\$300.00

Appd [Signed] Geo R Ward

Reed Payment Bullitt, Patrick & Dow

By Lendon S. Straus

45

San Francisco, Sept 17th, '51

Vigilance Committee, San Francisco Bought of Geo. O. Whitney

2 Tables

\$10.00

Appd [Signed] Geo. R. Ward

Reed paymt [Signed] Geo. O. Whitney

46

San Francisco, July 8/51

Vigilant Committee (Bot by Peter Viter) Bot of E. H. Jones & Co.

3 dressing Combs

4.50

2 whisk Brooms

50

1.00

1 [doz] spoons

8.00

2 Hair Brushes

7.00

\$20.50

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward

Received payment, September 18, 1851 E. H. Jones & Co.
per . . .

47

San Francisco, Sep 16, 1851

Vigilance Committee	to <i>California Courier</i> ,	Dr.
1851 June 25	For adv. Notice that Gallaher is not a member	\$3.00
26	" " \$5000 Reward	10.00
July 4	" " Meeting	4.00
8	" " Resolutions—2 sq. 1 week	10.00
		<hr/>
		\$27.00

Appd [Signed] Geo. R. Ward

Reed payt—By contribution J. M. Crane
pr C. O. G.

48

San Francisco, Aug 2nd 1851

Vigilance Committee	To E. Gilbert & Co., <i>Alta California</i> Office,	Dr.
July, Printing 600 Circulars		\$18.00
Appd [Signed] Geo. R. Ward		

Reed payt E. Gilbert & Co.
Pr D. S. McDermot

[It is probable that these circulars were the subscription sheets for the jail fund.]

49

Committee of Vigilance	To Oriental Hotel	
1851, July 21, for Refreshments furnished to date		\$200.00
Approved as per advice of A. J. MacDuffie [Signed] Eug Delessert,		
Wm. H. Jones, Geo. R. Ward, J. C. L. Wadsworth.		

paid	5.00
Jail fund	30.00
paid	60.00
	<hr/>
	\$95.00

Received ninety five \$ in acct. [Signed] Caleb Hyatt
Reed in full [Signed] Caleb Hyatt

50

Will Mr Dellesert please let George have Ten Dollars on acc.
& Oblige yours Respecty

[Signed] D. L. Oakley, Sergt at Arms

I have no cash on hand [Signed] O—

Committee Room, Sept 23d, 1851

received [signed] T. G. Pfeister

51

Reed, Sanfrancisco, Sept 25th, 1851 from E. Delessert, Treasurer,
on act of Services one hundred Doll. \$100.00

[Signed] Danl L Oakley, Sergt at Arms, V. C.

Approved [Signed] E. Delessert

52

San Francisco, 26 Sept, 1851

The Vigilance Committee	to the <i>Morning Post</i> ,	Dr.
26 June	To advtg in re Gallagher 1 sq	\$3.00
28 "	To " resolution at Meeting 1 sq	4.00
4 July	To " Meeting	2.00
7 "	To " Card 2 sq 3 t	8.00
19 "	To " reward of \$5000.00 17 to 26 July 2 sq	20.00
		<hr/> \$37.00

Appd [Signed] Geo. R Ward

Reed Payment Shepard & Co.
by W. Reynolds.

53

San Francisco, July, 1851

Committee of Vigilance	Bought of Geo. N. Shaw & Co.	
10 Boxes Candles	120 lbs @ 40	48.00
½ Keg Butter	11 lbs @ 40	4.40
		<hr/> \$52.40

Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward

Reed Payment Geo. N. Shaw & Co
pr H. C. Shaw

[Annotated:] Delessert, Ligeron & Co. Cash

54

George Pfeister, in account with the Committee of Vigilance Sanfrancisco, Sept 25th, 1851

Dr	To Cash	June 28th	\$10.00
"	"	July 18th	20.00
"	"	" 25	30.00
"	"	Aug. 5th	20.00
"	"	" 13	40.00
"	"	by receipt, pd as cash to E. Delessert, by	

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF 1851 785

No. 54 (continued) Forward \$120.00
 [Dr. To Cash] A. J. McDuffee 50.00
 " " pr Order on Treasurer 10.00
 \$180.00

Cr By Services from June 19th to Sept 19th, 3 mo at
 \$100 pr mo 300.00
 " Five Days work at \$3.50 pr day 17.50
 \$317.50

\$317.50
 180.00

E E. 137.50 \$137.50
 Correct [Signed] D. L. Oakley, Sergt at arms.
 Approved [Signed] Geo. R. Ward
 Will Mr. E. Dellessert please pay George, late porter to the Com-
 mittee, one hundred & thirty Seven Doll. being the amount due him.
 [Signed] Danl L. Oakley, S. A. A.

Sept 25th 1851

Paid me only 137 Dollar [Signed] T. G. Pfister

55

San Francisco

Vigilant Committee To W. O. Johnson & Co Dr.
 1851 July 12 To Hire of Horse 5.00
 13 To Hire of Horse, McCahill 5.00
 Augt 14 To Hire of Horse per Joyce & McDuffy 15.00
 \$25.00
 Less Horse for Mr. McCahill 5.00
 \$20.00

Appd [Signed] Geo. R. Ward

Sept. 26/51

Reed payt W. O. J. & Co.

pr J. W. Gaskins

56

D. L. Oakley for Executive Com. Com. Vigilence Bot of J. D. Bluxome
 One Box Sperm Candles 31½ lbs @ 55 cts \$17.32
 San Francisco, Sept 25, 1851
 Correct [Signed] D. L. Oakley, Sergt at Arms
 Appd [Signed] Geo. R. Ward

Paid [Signed] J D Bluxome

57

San Francisco, July 14, 1851

A J McDuffie for Vigalance Committee	Bot of Gay & Mellus	
10 Cheese, 102¼ less 10 = 92¼	@ 20c	18.45
5 Galls O D & C Brandy	\$6	30.00
' Cartage		1.00
		<hr/>
		\$49.50

Approved [Signed] Eug. Delessert, Wm. H. Jones, Geo. R.

Ward, J. C. L. Wadsworth.

Reed Payment [Signed] Gay & Mellus

58

The Vigilance Committee	to Pioneer Club House	Dr.
For Liquors, say Brandy, Gin &c furnished on board		
Ship <i>Adirondack</i>		\$40.00
Cigars		18.00
		<hr/>
		\$58.00

Approved [Signed] Wm. H. Jones, Geo. R. Ward, Eug. Delessert.

San Francisco, July 16, 1851

Reed Payment [Signed] T. K. Battelle

59

Vigilance Committee	to Baker & Messerve	Dr.
To 70 yds Muslin	@ 12½	8.75
" 15 rolls Paper	@ 75c	11.25
" 4 papers Tacks	@ 15c	.60
" work clothing & papering		12.00
" putting up ceiling, Border &c		3.00
		<hr/>
		\$35.60

Appd [Signed] Geo. R. Ward

San Francisco, July 2, 1851

Reed Payt [Signed] Baker & Messerve

[Anotated:] To be offset by fines &c. August 9th 1851

60

San Francisco, Augt 5th, 1851

Messrs Committee of Vigilance	Bought of Taaffe & McCahill,	
1 Dz Hick shirts	@ 7.50	\$ 7.50
1 Dz Wool ½ Hose		3.00

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF 1851 787

No. 60 (continued) Forward \$10.50
 ½ Dz Red shirts 15\$ 7.50

1 Piano Cover

18.00

8.00

\$26.00

Approved [Signed] Geo. R Ward

Recd paymt [Signed] Taaffe, McCahill & Co

61

San Francisco, Oct 15, 1851

Ex. Committee of Committee of Vigilance To I. Bluxome Jr.

For Services as Secretary 1 mo. \$100.00

[Signed] Eug. Delessert

Received Payment [Signed] Isaac Bluxome, Jr.

62

Vigillance Committee To Ryan & Duff

Dr.

To 4½ dys by Carpenters, Fitting up room \$10.00

\$45.00

San Francisco, 29th Septr. 1851

Correct [Signed] D. L. Oakley, S. A. A. Sept 30th, 51

Recvd payment [Signed] Ryan & Duff

63

Superior Court

Peter Metcalf vs. George Mellus, F. A. Woodworth, Daniel Oakley

& Thomas McCahill, George E. Schenck & — Brinley

Received, November 11, 1851, of Isaac Bluxome Jr., Fifty dollars
 on account of our costs against the said defendants, to cover disburse-
 ments.

[Signed] Wood & Cook, Defts Attys.

64

San Francisco, 14 novbre, 1851

Le Comité de Vigilance Par M. E. Delessert Bought of Chs. Bertrand

21 yds Crêpe Noir à \$1

\$21.00

Ren Payement [Signed] Ch. Bertrand

65

St Francisco, November the 25th, 1851

Vigilance Comitee to S. Rosenthal

4 yds crepe

\$1.00

4.00

Paper Pins

.20

4.20

Recived Paymt [Signed] S. Rosenthal

66

San Francisco, Oct 21/51

Vigilance Comte	To Jno. Middleton	Dr.
To 2 months rent for rooms Cor Sansome & Sacramento		
Sts from Sept 18 to Nov. 18 payable in advance pr		
	month \$50	\$100.00
To 1 large roll matting		10.00
		<hr/>
		\$110.00
Reed payment [Signed] A. H. Bradford		
for J. Middleton		

67

Received for Rent of the committee Rooms, fifty dollars
 Reed Payt [Signed] A. H. Bradford
 San Fco 24 Nov 1851

68

San Francisco, Dec 18th/51

Vigilance committee	To Auction Saloon	Dr.
To two months rent ending Jany 18th 1852 payable in		
	advance	\$100.00
Reed Payt [Signed] Bradford & Ladd		

69

Committee of Vigilance	Bot of J. D. Bluxome	
1852, Jany 5, 2 Boxes sperm candles 5 lbs ea.	10 lbs @ 70	\$7.00
San Francisco Jan 30/52	Paid [Signed] J. D. Bluxome	

70

San Francisco, Sept, 1851

Committee of Vigalence	To San Francisco Herald	Dr.
for Advt \$5000 Reward from June 25th to Aug 25		
	2 sqrs 2 Mos @ \$15 per Sqr	60.00
for Advt Mirror Lost from July 2nd 1 month		10.66
Sept 16	Notice of Meeting	1.50
" 19	Notice to Members 1 sqr 7 times	10.00
" 23	Notice of Meeting 2 times	3.00
		<hr/>
		\$85.16
Deduct for the Good of the Cause		35.16
		<hr/>
Amt due		50.00

Reed payt Nugent & Co
 pr Wilcocks

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF 1851 789

71

San Francisco, Oct 1st, 1851

Committee of Vigilance	To San Francisco Herald,	Dr.
Notice of Meeting	1 sqr	2.00
Oct 2nd Notice of Meeting		2.00
" Resolutions &c	1 3/4 sqr	5.00
		<hr/>
		\$9.00
Reed pmt	Nugent & Co	
	per Wilcocks	

72

San Francisco, Oct. 13, 1851

Vigilance Committe	To San Francisco Herald,	Dr.
Advt. Notice of Meeting	1 sqr 3 times	\$6.00
	Reed pmt Nugent Co	
	per Wilcocks	

73

Vigilance Committe	To Green & Bowman	Dr.
July 13, Carriage & Horse Hire		35.00
San Francisco Oct 2d 1851		
[Annotated:] State what for		
[Endorsed:] July 13, Hire 4 Saddle Horses		20.00
Buggy Hire		10.00
August 1st Carriage Hire		5.00
Stewarts Guerrero, Lebras		<hr/>
		\$35.00

San Francisco July 19th 1851

Vigilance Committee	To Green & Bowman	
July 13th 4 Saddle Horses	5.00	20.00
" " 1 Horse & Buggy		10.00
		<hr/>
		\$30.00

Case of Le Bras, to the Mission

Approved [Signed] J. C. L. Wadsworth, E Delessert, Geo. R. Ward.

[Annotated:] Information

Reed of the Vigilance Committe by the hands of S. Payrann, thirty
five dollars for Carriage Hire
\$35.00 [Signed] Sibert, for Green & Bowman
San Francisco Nov 19, 1851

74

Vigilance Committee Dr. To E. Bowen of Saucelito
 For Expenses of trip to Saucelito & back to give information concerning Brig *Malek Adhel* \$11.00
 San Francisco, July 22/51
 Note James F. Curtis is authorized to receive above for E. Bowen
 Approved [Signed] James C. L. Wadsworth, Geo. J. Oakes, Geo. R. Ward.

Reed Payment. X

[This bill is annotated "Rejected," but it is entered as paid on the treasurer's book.]

75

San Francisco, Sept 5th, 1851

Committee of Vigilance	To J. H. Mallett	Dr.
to 4 Saddle Horses	at 5 ea	\$20.00
Carriage Hire from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.		25.00
		<hr/> \$45.00

By Order Chief of Poliece

[Annotated:] 10 o'clk to 3 morn. night of Duane, Dutch Charley—

Approved [Signed] Geo R Ward, E. Delessert

Reed Payt J. H. Mallett

pr H. McGrath

76

San Francisco, July 18/51

Reed of James Murray on a/c of Boat Hire & Services for the Vigilant Committee eveg of the 16th inst Five dollars.

\$5.00 [Signed] Wm. Boynton

Approved [Signed] Eug. Delessert, Wm. H. Jones, Geo. R. Ward,
 J. C. L. Wadsworth.

77

Vigilance Commite	To W. N. Horton	Dr.
for boat hire		18.00

Ree'd Payment [Signed] W. N. Horton

[Annotated:]

Dues 10

Certificate 5

\$15

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF 1851 791

78

Danl Oakley for Vigilance Committee Bot of J. D. Bluxome
 One Box Supr Spm Candles 32 lbs @ 57c pr lb \$18.40
 San Francisco, Oct. 22/51
 Correct, Oct. 22nd 1851 [Signed] D. L. Oakley, S A Arms
 Paid [Signed] J. D. Bluxome

79

San Francisco, 15 Nov. 1851

Vigilance Committee Bought of Case, Heiser & Co.,
 1 Box Spm Candles 32 lb. @ 50c, \$16.00
 Correct [Signed] D. L. Oakley
 Jany 20/52 Recd Payment [Signed] Case, Heiser & Co

80

The Vigilance Committee of San Francisco To Baker & Messerve Dr.
 To Papering 1 Room as per contract 25.00
 " Extra work clothing &c 5.00
 " Gilt Moulding for windows &c 3.00
 \$33.00

Recd Payt [Signed] Baker & Messerve
 San Francisco, Sep 30th, 1851

81

San Francisco, Oct 21/51

Committee of Vigalance to W C Annan Dr.
 To Cash paid boat hire in search of Mr Briggs in company
 with Mr Williams \$12.00
 Recd Paymt [Signed] W. C. Annan

82

San Francisco, Sep 19, 1851

The Vigilance Committee Bot of Cooke & LeCount
 July 23 1 Record Book \$12.50
 4 Boxes Pens 5.00
 1 Bottle Ink 2.00
 2 doz. pen holders 3.50
 Aug 1 1 Blank Book 2.50
 " 19 1 Rm. Paper 7.00
 1 Index 1.00
 1 box pens 2.50
 1 bottle Carmine Ink 1.00

No. 82 (continued) Forward

\$37.00

Sep 2	1/2 dozen red tape	.75
	Sealing wax	2.00
	2 pkgs. envel. 2 sizes	1.25
	1 memo. book 4to	1.50
	1 memo. book long narrow	1.50
	Indexing the latter	2.00
		<hr/>
		\$46.00

San Francisco Oct 15, 1851

The Vigilance Committee To Cooke & LeCount Dr.
for amt B/R Sep 19 \$46.00

Reed Payment Cooke & LeCount
pr Yates

83

San Francisco, Oct 6, 1851

The San Francisco Vigilance Committee To Cooke & LeCount Dr.
To amt B/rendd Sept 19, 1851 \$46.00

Sep 23	1 Rm. Cap paper	\$6.50
	1 Rm. letter paper	5.00
	1 Box envelopes	2.00
	3 pks envelopes	1.00
	1 paper cutter	.75
	4 Boxes Pens	5.00
	1 doz. pen holders	1.50
	1 parallel rule	1.50
	12 Sheets pat. blot'g pap.	2.00
27	1 Memo. Book	.38
29	1 bot. red ink & a blk. bk.	2.00
Oct 3	1 quire tissue paper	2.00
	1 bottle gum arabic	1.00
6	paper	8.00
		<hr/>
		\$38.63

[Annotated:] paid [Signed] E. D. \$4.63
46.00

\$38.63

San Francisco Oct 7, 1851

Vigilance Committee Dr. To Cooke & LeCount
for amt Bill Rendered \$38.63

Reed Payment Cooke & LeCount
pr John H. Bolton

84

Paid to J. H. Connell [A. J. Cornell] & Dewey & others,	
ten per cent commission on collections	\$154.00
Difference on Baldwins*	9.50
	<hr/>

85

163.50

Comité de Surveillance, doit à Alex. Zabreski & Co.	
pour la gravure et la livarison de 1000 exempl. de brevet	
des membres pour la dite Société	\$150.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$150.00
paid	100.00
	<hr/>

San Francisco le 22 janvier 1852 \$ 50.00
 Approved [Signed] F. A. Woodworth, Chairman Comm:—
 pour acquit total [Signed] Alex. Zabreski

86

Committee of Vigilance	To John Sullivan	Dr.
To Boat hire	<i>American Boy</i> one day	\$16.00
" " "	" " one night	16.00
" " "	<i>Gregory</i> Two Trips	10.00
" " "	" " three trips	15.00
" " "	Cash Paid Boat man	4.00
" " "	<i>Gregory</i> $\frac{3}{4}$ day	12.00
" " "	Whale Boats $4\frac{1}{2}$ days	72.00
		<hr/>
		\$145.00

Received Payment for John Sullivan [Signed] A. Jackson McDuffee
 [Annotated:] paid \$145

133 [See voucher No. 88]

150 [See voucher No. 87]

\$428 paid [Signed] E. D.

87

San Francisco, Aug 26/51

Vigilance Committee	To Sullivan & Tucker	
1 Night for Boat to	<i>Mary & Catherine</i>	16.00
2 Trip for Boat		10.00
1 " <i>Gregory</i>		5.00
1 " <i>White Squals</i>		5.00
		<hr/>

* See note 9, p. 152.

No. 87 (continued) Forward		\$36.00
1 [Trip <i>White Squalls</i>] & 1 night in Harbor		16.00
1 " Do		5.00
1 Night & 1 Day Ship <i>Johnston</i>		32.00
2 Trips to <i>Dorset</i>		10.00
1 Trip to <i>Veto</i>		5.00
2 " to Angel Island		16.00
1 " to North Beach		5.00
1 Night & 1 Day Ship <i>Robt Bourne</i>		32.00
1 Night & ½ Day Ship <i>Edgar</i>		24.00
1 Trip to <i>Vincennes</i> (for J. B. Evans)		5.00
1 Night, Ship <i>President</i>		16.00
2 Trips, Ship <i>Edgar</i>		10.00
1 " to Brig <i>Hallowell</i>		5.00
Cash paid for Boat Hire		6.00
2 Trips for Maj. Graham on Board Ship <i>Robt Bourne</i>		
for Mrs Wright & her things [Annotated:] of this		
I am not quite sure. W. H. C		10.00
		<hr/>
		\$233.00
Correct [Signed] W. H. Clarke after deducting \$5 for Mr Evens		
Mr. I. Bluxome, Jr. to Seth Daniels		
for 5 trips to Ship <i>Mary & Catherine</i> for Self & Friends		\$25.00
This is correct for Boat Hire [Signed] W. H. Clarke		
Received in Acct One hundred & thirty three dollars		
San Fo 19 Sept 1851	[Signed]	Thos Tucker

88

San Francisco, July 22nd, 1851

The Vigilance Committ To John Sullivan, Thomas Tucker and others		
for boat hire to the <i>Aderondac</i>		
To <i>American boy</i> 1 N		\$16.00
" " " 1 D		16.00
" <i>White Squall</i> ½ N		8.00
" " " one trip		5.00
" <i>Jenny Lind</i> ½ N		8.00
" " " ½ D		8.00
" " " 1 D		16.00
" <i>Gregory</i> 2 trips		10.00
" " 3 trips		15.00
" <i>Staghound</i> 1 trip		5.00
" <i>White Squall</i> 1 N		16.00
" Cash paid for Oak Smith		4.00
" <i>Gregory</i> ¾ D		12.00
		<hr/>
		\$139.00

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF 1851 795

No. 88 (continued) Forward

\$139.00

Due to the Whale boat from Wenesday Night to Monday Morning for boat hire \$144.00; that is allowing \$16. dollers per night and 16. per day, off all the time. Some times 2 men in the boat and more times 4 men. One trip the *White Squall*, 1 trip 5 dollers the Whole amount

\$149.00

both bills

\$288.00

Correct [Signed] W. H. Clarke

Correct [Signed] T. K. Battelle

Approved knowing that the service was rendered but deeming the members of the guard very extravagant [Signed] J. C. L. Wadsworth, Geo. R. Ward, Eug. Delessert.

paid in presence of MacDuffee \$150.00 [Signed] E. D.

San Francisco Nov. 6, 1851, Reed of E. Delessert, Esq., Treasurer of the Com. of Vigilance, Ninety Eight Dolls in full for Boat hire as per Bills 22 July & 26 Aug and also in full of all demands against said Vig. Com. for self and John Sullivan & Thos Tucker

Witness [Signed] Geo. R. Ward [Signed] Frank Lee
recd 150 [Signed] Thos Tucker

89

Received, Sanfrancisco, Oct 28th, 1851, of A. J Cornell, collector of the V. C. forty Dollars

\$40.00 [Signed] Danl L. Oakley, Sergt at arms

Reed, Sanfrancisco, Sept 25th, 1851, from E. Delessert, Treasurer, twenty Doll, for expenses of Rooms, water, papers &c &c

\$20.00 [Signed] Danl L. Oakley, Sergt at arms to E. C. of V. C.

Reed, Sanfrancisco, Dec 12th, 1851, from E. Delessert, Treasurer, twenty Doll on act of Services as Sergeant at arms

\$20.00 [Signed] Danl L. Oakley, Sergt at arms

Reed, Sanfrancisco, Oct 31st, of A. J. Cornell, Collector V. C. fifty Doll for Oct dues

[Signed] D. L Oakley, Sergt at Arms

90

Received, Sanfrancisco, Oct 18th, 1851, of Eugene Delessert, Treasurer, fifty Doll on acct of Services as Sergeant at arms to V. C.
\$50.00 [Signed] Danl L Oakley, Sergt at arms V. C.

91

San Francisco, Sept 22/51

Vigilant Committee Bot of Jonn Gavett . . . Co.

1 Gilt Girandola	5 lights	18.00
1 3 Light do		12.00
		<hr/>
		\$30.00

Correct [Signed] D. L. Oakley

[Annotated:] paid

San Francisco, Jany 22d, 1852, of Isaac Bluxome, Jr., fifteen dolls on
a/c of Bill vs. Vigilance Committee

\$15.00

[Signed] Jonn. Gavett

No. 371

Dues Oct. Nov. Dec. Jan'y. \$10

Certificate of Membership 5

\$15

[Signed] I. B. Jr

92

Committee of Vigilance To I. Bluxome Jr

Dr.

For Services as Secretary from 17th of Oct to

17th of Dec, 2 mo

\$200.00

Received Payment [Signed] Isaac Bluxome Jr, Secretary

San Francisco, Feby 11, 1852

[93 is missing.]

94

San Francisco, Jany 15, 1851 [1852]

Eug. Delessert, Ligeron & Co. Pay to Danl Oakley, Jr. or order

Twenty-five Dollars

\$25.00

[Signed] Geo. R. Ward,

[Endorsed] Danl Oakley, Jr.

95

San Francisco Oct 51

Mr. _____ To Millen Griffith

Dr.

To 5 Tons Coal, used on Expedition in Steam Tug

Fire Fly

\$30.

\$150.00

reduced to

\$125.00

Reed Paym [Signed] Millen Griffith

[This was the attempt made to overhaul Osman and others, outside
the Golden Gate. See p. 679.]

96

San Francisco, February 11th, 1852

Messrs Vigilance Committee	To <i>Evening Picayune</i> Office,	Dr.
From October 18th 1851 to Present Date		\$8.50
do For <i>Courier</i> to January 3d		5.50
February 21st to One week		.50

\$14.50

Received payment S. O. Johnson, Assignee
per H. R. Helper

Next month please stop sending your paper

[Signed] E Delessert, Treasurer

97

Vigilance Committee	To Auction Saloon	Dr.
To rent of Rooms one month payable in advance		\$50.00
San Francisco feb 18th/52		

Reed Payment [Signed] Bradford & Ladd

98

D. L. Oakley in acct with the Committee of Vigilance

Cr. By Services commencing Aug 30th 1851, to Sept 24th 1851,

\$250.00 pr. mo.

\$216.67

Dr. To Cash Sept 18th paid Self	45.67	
" " " 28th pr rect E. D. Treas	100.00	
" " " pr rect E. D. Treas	71.00	\$216.67

Settled to Sept 24th, 1851. [Signed] D. L. Oakley, S. A. A.

Mr. E Delessert \$150.00

Sir Please pay to Mr. Jas B. Huie or Order, One Hundred & fifty
Doll for value reed and chge the same to my account

[Signed] Danl L. Oakley, Sergt at Arms, V. C.

Sanfrancisco, Oct 30th 1851.

D. L. Oakley in act with E. Dellessert, Treasurer of E. C. of V. C.

Sanfrancisco, Feby 28th 1852

Dr. To Cash Oct 18 Tr.	\$50.00	
" " Oct 27 A. J. C.	\$40.00	
" " Oct 30	50.00	
" " order J. B. H.	150.00	
" " Dec. Treas.	20.00	E. D.
" " Jany G. A. Wd.	25.00	E. D. W.
" " Bluxome	12.50	

\$347.50

To Balce

252.50

\$600.00

No. 98 (continued)

Cr. Sept 24th to Oct 24th By Services S. A A		
to the E C of V C	150.00	
Nov 24th	150.00	
Dec 24th per deputy J. W. Cartwright	150.00	
Jany 24th per deputy J. W. Cartwright	150.00	\$600.00

The above is my true account to date of Jany 24 1852

[Signed] Danl L. Oakley

Reed Sanfrancisco Feby 27th 1852 of E. Dellessert, treasurer, Two hundred & fifty two 50/100 Dollars in full of all demands to date

[Signed] Danl L. Oakley, Sergt at Arms

99

San Francisco Jan 1st 1852

Committee of Vigilance To S. E. Woodworth	Dr.
To Expenses for trip to San Jose	\$42.00
[Signed] S. E. Woodworth, V. C.	

100

Vigilance Company To S. G. Pierce	Dr.
1852 [1851] Dec 1st To 268 Buckets Water @ 6¼	16.75
Received pay [Signed] S. G. Pierce	

101

Andrew J. McDuffie Esq. To Geo. Mellus		Dr.
1851 July 14 To 10 Cheeses, 92¼ lbs @ 20c	18.45	
" 5 Galls Brandy	30.00	
Cartage	1.00	49.45
31 " 3 Tins Coffee 18 lbs 35c	6.30	
" 10 Cheeses 97¼ lbs. 20c	19.45	
" 2 lbs Tobacco 75	1.50	
" 1 Box Claret Wine	4.50	
" 3 Galls Alcohol	9.00	
Cartage	1.00	41.75
Aug 9 " 4 Tins Coffee 24 lbs 35c	8.40	
" 22 " 4 Tins Coffee 24 lbs 35c	8.40	16.80

\$108.00

SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF 1851 799

No. 101 (continued) Forward Contra Cr \$108.00

By Cash from A. J. McD	10.00	
" Cash from Déllésseret [No. 57]	49.00	59.00
		<hr/>
E. E.		\$49.00
Sept 3d To 2 Tins Coffee 12 lbs @ 35c deld		
D. L. Oakley		4.20
		<hr/>
		\$53.20
paid	10.00	
		<hr/>
		43.00

Reed from the Vigilance Committee ten Dollars a/c of my bill.
Jany 17, 1852 [Signed] George Mellus

Reed San Francisco Meh 2/52 from E. Delessert forty four dollars
in full for all bills against the Vigilance Committee
\$44. [Signed] Geo. Mellus and Gay & Mellus

102

San Francisco, Dec 1, 1851

The Vigilance Committee	Bought of Cooke & LeCount	
Nov 1	1 Ream paper	\$6.00
4	10 assorted papers	2.00
12	1 Blank Book	10.00
		<hr/>
		\$18.00
Jany 5	Steel Pens & Holders	3.00
		<hr/>
		21.00

Reed Payment Cooke & LeCount
pr R D Langforth[?]

103

Le Committée de Vigilance doit à Alex. Zabreski & Co Lithographers
pour l'impression de 24 copies du Certificat sur le
parchemin pour le dit Committée \$20.00

Total \$20.00

San Francisco le 16 Fevrier 1852

pour acquit [Signed] Alex Zabreski

VOUCHERS OF GEORGE R. WARD, Treasurer*

104

Vigilance Committee	To B. Baldwin	Dr.
1852 Jan 17 . . .	Certificates	8.00
27 do do		12.00
		<hr/>
		\$20.00

San Francisco Mar. 20, 1852, Reed Payt [Signed] B. Baldwin

105

San Francisco, Mar 18th/52

Vigilance Committee	To Auction Saloon	Dr.
To rent of Rooms,	one month from date	\$50.00
Reed Payt [Signed]	Bradford & Ladd	

106

Vigilance Committee	To Auction Saloon	Dr.
To rent of rooms,	1 month	\$50.00
Apr 18/52	Reed pay [Signed]	Bradford & Ladd

[107 is missing.]

108

Vigilance Committee	To Mrs S. E. Cole	Dr.
For three linen scarfs	at 5—	\$15.00
Reed Payment [Signed]	S. E. Cole	
San Francisco, Oct 11th, 1851		

VOUCHERS OF A. J. McDUFFEE, Sergeant-at-Arms

109

San Francisco, June 13th, 1851

Committee of Vigalinee, S. F.	to San Francisco Herald	Dr.
For Ad of Notice to Citizens of Cala	1½ sqr 1 time	\$4.50
Approved [Signed]	R. S. Watson	
Reed payt	Nugent & Co.	
	per Wilcocks	

110

San Francisco, June 14th, 1851

Vigilance Committee of S. F.	Bought of Woodworth & Morris	
10 lbs. Gun Powder		\$15.00
The Treasurer will please pay the above bill.		
[Signed]	R. S. Watson, W. H. Jones, Geo. R. Ward,	
	Committee of Finance	
Received Payment	Woodworth & Morris	
	[per] W. H. Jones	

* From this point the editor has assigned the serial numbers to the vouchers.

111

Vigilance Committee Bot of Gay & Mellus

1851 June 9	5 Galls Pale Brandy	\$6.00	\$30.00
June 9	1 Cask 4 doz. Ale	5.00	20.00
June 16	5 Gal Pale Brandy	6.00	30.00
	2 demijohns	3.00	6.00

\$86.00

Cartage

2.00

\$88.00

Deduct 2 demijohns

6.00

\$82.00

San Francisco, June 16, 1851

Reed Payt [Signed] Gay & Mellus

112

San Francisco, June 18th 1851

Committee of Vigilance Bought of Taaffe & McCahill

134 Yds 4/4 Cotton at 12½¢ \$16.85

The Sergeant at Arms will please liquidate the above.

[Signed] J. W. Salmon Treasurer

Reed Payt [Signed] Taaffe & McCahill

113

San Francisco, June 18th 1851

The Vigilance Committee To Jas. B. M. Crooks

Dr.

To 1 Ble. 31 Galls spm. Oil \$55.80

1 Cask Feeder 1.00

Cartage 1.00

Tapping Ble. Labour of man & Trimming 24 Lamps 10.00

1 Pair Scissors 1.00

\$68.80

Approved [Signed] Wm H. Jones

Reed Payt [Signed] J. B. M. Crooks

114

The Vigilance Committee Bot of Taaffe & McCahill

11 pairs Blankets \$5.00 \$55.00

San Francisco, June 19th/51

Reed Payment [Signed] Taaffe & McCahill

115

San Francisco, June 19, 1851

Vigilance Committee Bought of Macondray & Co.
 3 Dozen Chairs at \$16 \$48.00
 Rec Payment Macondray & Co.
 [per] C. A. Downes

116

San Francisco, June 21st, 1851

Messrs Comm of Vigilance Bought of Taafe & McCahill
 7 Pr Blue Blankets @ \$4.50 \$31.50
 5 " do do 22.50
 \$54.00
 Recd Payment [Signed] Taafe & McCahill

117

San Francisco June 21st 1851

Vigilance Committee Bought of Geo. O. Whitney
 2 Office Chairs and Cushions at \$6 \$12.00
 Recd Payment [Signed] Geo O Whitney
 [Annotated:] 354 Pd

118

San Francisco June 21 1851

A. J. McDuffee, Sergt at Arms—Vig. Comm. Rooms
 Bo't of William J. Silver, Sac. St.
 24 Single Straw Mattresses and Pillows at \$2.50 \$60.00
 Approved as a member [Signed] S. Brannan
 Recd Payt [Signed] W. J. Silver

119

San Francisco June 25, 1851

Vigilance Committee Bought of Macondray & Co.
 2 Pistols \$55.00
 Recd Payt. M & Co.
 [per] Walker

120

June 25, 1851

June 20 2 Bill files \$3.00
 " " ½ Ream Paper 3.50
 " " 1 Blank Book 2.00
 " 25 1 Box Wafers 1.50
 \$10.00

Paid June 25, 1851 Cook & Lecount
 per John H. Bolton

121

Vigilant Committee	To Oriental Hotel	
1851 June 25	for Refreshments furnished	\$16.00
26	" " "	4.00
		<hr/>
		\$20.00

San Francisco, June 26/51 Reed Payment Caleb Hyatt
By H. I Joseph

122

Vigilance Committee	Bot of Gay & Mellus	
6 cheeses	64½ lb = 58¼ lb at 25	\$14.56
1 Water Bucket and Cover		6.00
Cutlery		1.00
		<hr/>
		\$21.56

Reed Payt [Signed] Gay & Mellus
[Endorsed:] June 26, 1851

123

San Francisco, June 30, 1851

Received from A. J. McDuffee the sum of Fifteen Dollars for Expenses
in coming to San Francisco to give evidence before the Committee of
Vigilance in the Case of One Church
\$15.00 [Signed] Wm. Gessner

124

Rec'd, San Francisco, July 25th, 1851 from Florence Mahony [V. C.
No. 433] Nineteen dollars for expenses of John Francis from San Fran-
cisco to Marysville
\$19.00 [Signed] C. Yeomans

125

San Francisco Aug 4/51

The Vigilance Committee	To G. E. Schenck	Dr.
To 3 Woolen Shirts	6/	\$2.25
1 pr Pants		2.00
		<hr/>
		\$4.25
	Cash	75
		<hr/>
		\$5.00

Reed payment [Signed] G. E. Schenck

126

San Francisco, Aug 20.—1851

Messrs The Vigilance Committee Bot of Bailey, Gilbert & Canfield
 Jy 7 To 1 Bbl Polar Oil 30 gal at \$1.45 \$43.50
 Aug 20 1 Do Do 30 do 1.45 43.50
 \$87.00

Reed payt [Signed] Bailey & Gilbert

[For voucher 127 see next page.]

BANK BOOK OF THE COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE

Dr. JAMES KING, OF WM., In account with J. W. SALMON, Treasurer

1851

June 10	To	Dep	\$ 75.00
17	" "	do	265.00
12	" "	do	150.00
" "	" "	do	66.00
" "	" "	do	150.00
14	" "	do	100.00
19	" "	do	50.00
20	" "	do	510.47
26	" "	do	254.50
			50.00

The pass book used by J. W. Salmon, the first treasurer of the Committee, is 4 × 6 inches in size, and on the leather cover is stamped:

"JAMES KING OF WM. in a/c with——"

The entries on the credit side are doubly checked, to indicate the number of the corresponding voucher, the number at the left having been added in the handwriting of the second treasurer, Eugene Delessert.

San Francisco, Sept. 1851

Vigilance Committee Bot of Bailey, Gilbert & Canfield,

3 Gals Oil

1.45

\$4.35

Reed Py [Signed] B & G

Notes.—The following alphabetical list of names of the constitution was compiled by Mr. Porter Hammett, editor of Part I of the Papers of the San Francisco Committee of Vigilance of 1851.* Names were verified from authentic sources, variation among were supplied in full wherever possible, and the form there adopted has been followed here, except in a few cases where correction is based upon legible signatures found in the documents.

All members signed the constitution, and numbers were given to their names. This list was copied, with some variation of order, into a Book of Names kept by the vigilance-committee, and as the numbers became the official identification of members, they are given in italics enclosed within brackets wherever they differ from the original, which are printed in Roman type immediately following each name.

Abbey, J. A. 239

Hammett, F. C. 185

BANK BOOK OF THE COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE

JAMES KING, OF WM., In account with J. W. SALMON, Treasurer Cr.

June 10	1	S. of A.	No. 1	\$ 50.00
11	2		2	50.00
17	3	Rent	3	400.00
20	4	Angel Island	4	36.50
26	5	S. of A.	5	100.00
			984.47	
	6			479.24
	7			30.00
	8		on a/c	400.00
	9			12.75

* Publications of the Academy of Pacific Coast History, Vol. I, No. 7.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE

NOTE.—The following alphabetic list of signers of the constitution was compiled by Mr. Porter Garnett, editor of Part I of the *Papers of the San Francisco Committee of Vigilance of 1851*.* Names were verified from authoritative sources, Christian names were supplied in full wherever possible, and the form there adopted has been followed here, except in a few cases where correction is based upon legible signatures found in the documents.

As members signed the constitution, serial numbers were given to their names. This list was copied, with some variation of order, into a *Book of Names* kept by the sergeant-at-arms, and as his numbers became the official identification of members, they are given in italics enclosed within brackets wherever they differ from the original, which are printed in Roman type immediately following each name.

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* Publications of the Academy of Pacific Coast History, Vol. 1, No. 7.

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* Printed Von Lenyerck in the *San Francisco Herald*, June 13, 1851;
 Von Lengerke, in Parker's *San Francisco Directory*, 1852.

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The following men were named in the documents as members elect, or as persons who apparently acted as members:

Berford, R. G. See <i>Names Approved by the Committee on Qualification</i> ,* 18	Lawrence, William W. <i>Ibid.</i> , 19
Haight, H.	Ottinger, Capt. <i>Ibid.</i> , 18
Higgins, Cornell	Patterson, Capt.
Kemble, Edward C. <i>Ibid.</i> , 18	Ranger, Tillman P.
	Scholefield, Charles. <i>Ibid.</i> , 17
	Shaw, George N. <i>Ibid.</i> , 17

* *Papers of the San Francisco Committee of Vigilance of 1851*, II.
(Publications of the Academy of Pacific Coast History, Vol. 2, No. 2.)

APPENDIX B

OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE COMMITTEE
OF VIGILANCE

GENERAL COMMITTEE

President:

- Samuel Brannan, from the organization to July 9.†
S. E. Woodworth, from July 9 to the reorganization, September 17.

Chairman pro tem.:

- S. E. Woodworth, July 5, 6, 7, 8.
G. R. Ward, July 3.
J. C. Ward, July 8.
J. B. Huie, July 29, August 31.
William Sharon, August 1.
F. A. Woodworth, August 5, 6, 26.
D. S. Turner, August 9.
L. Tuffs, August 12.
J. D. Stevenson, August 20.
Henry Haight,* September 6.
J. F. Hutton, September 13.

Secretary:

- Isaac Bluxome, Jr., from July 5 to the reorganization, September 17.

Secretary pro tem:

- J. C. Ward, June 28.
Eugene Delessert, July 3.
G. R. Ward, July 8, August 9, 12.
F. A. Atkinson, appointed July 9, but never served.

Treasurer:

- J. W. Salmon, from the organization to July 5.
Eugene Delessert, from July 5, 1851, to April 2, 1852.
G. R. Ward, from April 2 to November 26, 1852.
R. B. Hampton, elected November 26, 1852.

Sergeant-at-Arms:

- A. J. McDuffee, from the organization to August 29.
D. L. Oakley, August 29, 1851, to February 24, 1852 (office abolished).

Chief of Police:

- J. L. Van Bokkelen, from the organization to August 23.
W. O. Smith, August 26 to the reorganization, September 17.

† Unless otherwise specified, dates refer to the year 1851.

* The name of Henry Haight is not enrolled among the members of the committee.

OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Chief of Water Police:

Edgar Wakeman, from the organization to about July 14.

W. H. Clarke, July 22, or earlier, to the reorganization, September 17.

Marshals:

C. Bohrer.

W. H. Jones.

J. J. Boyd.

J. W. Stillman.

S. L. Haven.

D. J. Thomas, Jr.

Collector of Fines and Dues:

Robert Wells.

A. J. Cornell.

D. L. Oakley.

F. A. Atkinson.

A. G. Randall.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President:

Samuel Brannan, from the organization to July 2 or 4.

Stephen Payran,* from July 2 or 4 to November 12.

G. W. Ryckman, elected April 2, 1852, re-elected November 26, 1852.

Chairman pro tem.:

G. M. Garwood, June 26.

W. L. Bromley, July 8.

J. B. Huie, June 27.†

G. W. Ryckman, July 18, 25, August 4.

A. J. Ellis, June 27.

E. Gorham, July 21.

G. E. Schenck, June 29.

J. W. Cartwright, January 7, 1852.

George Mellus, June 30.

J. C. Ward, May 5, 1852.

S. E. Woodworth, July 8.

Vice-president:

S. E. Woodworth, elected as first vice-president September 27, 1851, April 2, 1852. Presided, October 1(?), 15, December 10, 1851; January 14, 28, February 25, March 13, 17, 24, April 7, 15, May 12, 1852.

G. W. Ryckman, elected as second vice-president September 27, 1851. Presided, October 8, 27, November 5, 11, 12, 16, 19, 25, 26, December 17, 24, 31, 1851.

Eugene Delessert, elected as second vice-president April 2, 1852.

* The minutes do not record the election of Payran in July, but his signatures clearly establish his official position. After his resignation, the second vice-president, Ryckman, acted as chairman more frequently than Woodworth, and his name is annotated "Pres" on the secretary's roll.

† "Chairman" should follow his signature to the police order of August 22, on p. 549.

OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Secretary:

C. H. Brinley, from June 26 to July 9.

W. C. Graham, from July 9 to August 18.

Secretary pro tem:

J. F. Spence, June 30.

Stephen Payran, July 1, 2.

J. F. Curtis, July 17.

G. M. Garwood, July 25, August 20.

Isaac Bluxome, Jr., August 1.

G. W. Ryckman, August 19, 26, 29-31, September 6, 11, 13-16.

T. J. L. Smiley, September 9.

Charles Griswold, October 27.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance Committee:

As mentioned June 16: J. W. Salmon, G. R. Ward, R. S. Watson.

As mentioned June 26: W. H. Jones, Eugene Delessert, G. R. Ward, R. S. Watson.

Added before reorganization, September 17: P. D. Hedley, *vice* Jones; G. J. Oakes, *vice* Watson; J. C. L. Wadsworth.

September 17: G. R. Ward, Lafayette Maynard, Eugene Delessert, James King of William, T. J. L. Smiley.

April 2, 1852: James Dows, A. M. Ebbets, T. J. L. Smiley, E. M. Earl, Pulaski Jacks.

Added April 15: R. M. Jessup, *vice* Jacks.

Qualification Committee:

Previous to July 12:* F. A. Woodworth, G. E. Schenck, G. R. Ward, George Mellus, G. H. Howard, Samuel Brannan, A. J. Ellis.

Added July 12: Lloyd Minturn, E. R. Anthony, C. L. Case.

Added †: F. A. Woodworth, G. R. Ward, G. E. Schenck, J. C. Ward, A. J. Ellis.

September 27: G. M. Garwood, G. W. Ryckman, C. L. Case, J. F. Hutton, F. A. Woodworth.

March 13, 1852: J. C. Ward, James Dows, James De Long, G. W. Ryckman, James Hutton.

April 2: A. B. Stout, W. A. Darling, James Murray, R. L. Lamot, C. G. Scott.

* From signatures in the list of names approved by the Committee on Qualification. *Papers of the San Francisco Committee of Vigilance of 1851*, II.

† See p. 396.

APPENDIX C

ROLL CALL OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND SUMMARY
OF ATTENDANCE

After the reorganization, September 17, 1851, the secretary, Isaac Bluxome, Jr., kept the roll of the Executive Committee in a separate book, 5¼ × 8 inches in size, which was ruled by hand, and checked to record the attendance of each member. There is no title page in Bluxome's handwriting, although one was added, in pencil, probably when the papers were in the possession of H. H. Bancroft. The editor has inserted, from the minutes, the attendance at the special meetings of September 30, and November 16 and 26, 1851.

Almy, A.	7	—	—	—
Ames, J.	4	—	—	—
Argenti, J.	—	—	—	—
Bluxome, I. J.	19	—	—	—
Branan, J.	8	—	—	—
Brisley, J.	4	—	—	—
Brown, D. W.	—	—	—	—
Burling, William	—	—	—	—
Cardwright, J. W.	19	—	—	—
Cass, G. E.	8	—	—	—
Cobb, H. A.	4	—	—	—
Coleman, W. T.	3	—	—	—
Corrigan, J. P.	7	—	—	—
Curtis, J. P.	2	—	—	—
Dell, J. E.	—	—	—	—
Dell, J. E.	18	1	—	19
Darling, W. A.	—	—	—	—
Delassart, Eugene	21	6	—	27
De Long, James	16	2	—	18
Dewey, S. L.	8	—	—	8
Dows, James	—	—	—	—
Earl, E. M.	11	4	—	15
Ellis, A. J.	—	—	—	—
Ellis, J. B.	—	—	—	—
Garwood, C. M.	—	—	—	—
Gerry, S. E.	20	—	—	—
Gorham, E.	12	—	—	—
Graham, W. C.	—	—	—	—
Griswold, Charles	35	11	—	46
Hart, Eugene	—	—	—	—
Hawley, D. N.	—	—	—	—
Hochkofen, Rudolph	—	—	—	—
Homefroid, G. H.	—	—	—	—
Total	262	201	20	312

* Compiled by the editor.

† There are no minutes of executive meetings between the date of the minute of Whitaker and McKenle, and the reorganization, September 17.

SUMMARY OF THE ROLL CALLS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE*

	1851 June 26 to Aug. 20†	1851-1852 Sept. 24 to Mar. 13	1852 April 2 to May 12	Total
<i>Meetings recorded</i>	62	29	5	96
Almy, A. J.	---	---	---	---
Annan, W. C.	---	5	2	7
Argenti, Felix	---	18	---	18
Bluxome, Isaac, Jr.	42	27	5	74
Brannan, Samuel	7	3	---	10
Brinley, C. H.	34	---	---	34
Bromley, W. L.	42	---	---	42
Brown, D. W. C.	---	7	---	7
Burling, William	---	4	---	4
Cartwright, J. W.	---	19	---	19
Case, C. L.	---	6	---	6
Cobb, H. A.	---	4	---	4
Coleman, W. T.	7	3	---	10
Corrigan, J. P.	---	---	2	2
Curtis, J. F.	36	5	---	41
Dall, J. E.	---	---	---	---
Darling, W. A.	---	18	1	19
Delessert, Eugene	---	21	5	26
De Long, James	---	16	2	18
Dewey, S. L.	---	8	---	8
Dows, James	---	14	4	18
Earl, E. M.	---	---	4	4
Ebbets, A. M.	---	---	2	2
Ellis, A. J.	20	---	---	20
Ellis, J. S.	---	---	---	---
Garwood, C. M.	35	12	---	47
Gerry, S. R.	---	---	---	---
Gorham, E.	26	---	---	26
Graham, W. C.	33	---	---	33
Griswold, Charles	---	11	---	11
Hart, Eugene	---	---	3	3
Hawley, D. N.	---	---	---	---
Hochkofler, Rudolph	---	---	---	---
Hossefross, G. H.	---	---	---	---
	282	201	30	513

* Compiled by the editor.

† There are no minutes of executive meetings between the date of the seizure of Whittaker and McKenzie, and the reorganization, September 17.

SUMMARY OF ROLL CALLS

	1851 June 26 to Aug. 20	1851-1852 Sept. 24 to Mar. 13	1852 April 2 to May 12	Total
<i>Meetings recorded</i>	62	29	5	96
<i>Attendance forwarded</i>	282	201	30	513
Howard, W. A. ....	....	....	2	2
Howard, W. D. M. ....	....	....	..	....
Huie, J. B.	16	6	..	22
Hutton, J. F. ....	....	9	..	9
Jacks, Pulaski ....	....	....	3	3
Janvrin, Dennis ....	....	15	..	15
Jessup, R. M. ....	....	8	..	8
King of William, James..	....	1	..	1
Kinney, W. D. ....	....	....	..	....
Kirchner, Alexander ....	....	10	1	11
Lammot, R. S. ....	....	....	1	1
Latimer, B. G. ....	....	....	..	....
McCahill, Thomas	12	....	..	12
MacMichael, William ....	....	....	4	4
Maynard, Lafayette ....	....	5	..	5
Mellus, George	12	....	..	12
Murray, James ....	....	9	4	13
Naglee, H. M. ....	....	12	..	12
Oakes, G. J.	33	4	..	37
Panton, Francis ....	....	....	..	....
Parrott, J. S. ....	....	1	..	1
Payran, Stephen	49	8	..	57
Post, J. A. ....	....	1	..	1
Raynes John ....	....	8	..	8
Ripley, Noah ....	....	....	..	....
Rudsdale, M. ....	....	....	3	3
Ryekman, G. W.	31	29	5	65
Sanders, B. C.	1	1	..	2
Schenck, G. E.	41	....	..	41
Scott, C. G. ....	....	....	2	2
Smiley, T. J. L.	1	21	3	25
Spence, J. F.	17	....	..	17
Story, C. R. ....	....	....	..	....
Stout, A. B. ....	....	4	1	5
Sweetser, J. E. ....	....	....	..	....
Swift, J. M. ....	....	10	..	10
	495	363	59	917

SUMMARY OF ROLL CALLS

	1851 June 26 to Aug. 20	1851-1852 Sept. 24 to Mar. 13	1852 April 2 to May 12	Total
<i>Meetings recorded</i>	62	29	5	96
<i>Attendance forwarded</i>	495	363	59	917
Teschemacher, H. F. ....	....	8	..	8
Thebaud, E. ....	....	....	..	....
Thompson, W. N. ....	....	5	1	6
Turner, D. S.	8	....	..	8
Vassault, Ferdinand ....	....	4	..	4
Wadsworth, J. C. L.	30	11	4	45
Ward, G. R. ....	....	26	4	30
Ward, J. C.	24	6	3	33
Watson, R. S.	1	....	..	1
White, W. H. ....	....	16	..	16
Woodworth, F. A.	12	19	..	31
Woodworth, S. E.†	7	20	4	31
	<hr/> 577	<hr/> 478	<hr/> 75	<hr/> 1130
Average attendance	9+	16+	15	11+
Number composing Ex.				
Com.	20	45	45	

† *Ex officio* member, as president of General Committee.

APPENDIX D

ANALYSIS OF THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS OF THE COMMITTEE OF
VIGILANCE, JUNE 9, 1851-JUNE 17, 1852

NOTE.—The analysis of the financial accounts of the Committee of Vigilance is based upon the entries and footings in the cash accounts, pages 752-765, but it disregards the final, unbalanced entries made by G. R. Ward, July 14-November 24, 1852, on page 763. The vouchers have been used in classifying and supplementing the brief entries of the treasurers, and separate entries on the same voucher have been segregated, to secure accurate classification. Exact reference has been made to facilitate closer study by readers who may care for an examination of San Francisco prices in 1851.

Where discrepancies occur between vouchers and cash books, the entries in the latter have been followed. Instances of confusion in the accounts have already been noted on pages 752 and 756 and it seems very possible that Delessert's vouchers 3 and 58 referred to the same item, while vouchers 51, 89, 90, and 98, seem to show a duplication, amounting to \$280, charged to the salary of the sergeant-at-arms. As the books were audited by George R. Ward (see pages 759 and 761), it is possible that their apparent inaccuracies were understood by the contemporary members of the Finance Committee.

RECEIPTS

Accounted for by J. W. Salmon (p. 752)	\$1671.97	
Accounted for by Eugene Delessert (p. 760)	\$7791.80	
Deduction for balance from Salmon (p. 754)	\$112.48	
Deduction for advance by Delessert (p. 760)	220.38	332.86
Net receipts, Delessert	\$7458.94	7458.94
Accounted for by G. R. Ward (p. 763)		310.38
Accounted for by A. J. McDuffee (p. 764)	\$4045.00	
Deduction for cash paid treasurer (p. 765)	2811.36	
	\$1233.64	1233.64
		<u>\$10674.93</u>

The editor has tried in vain to analyze the receipts of the Committee. At least \$2400 came from outside contributions, \$175 from the sale of certificates, and \$320.23 from the sale of lumber and furniture. The balance of \$7779.70 came from initiation fees, dues, fines and voluntary subscriptions that were handed in by the regular collectors, without the names of the donors.

ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

DISBURSEMENTS

Accounted for by Salmon (p. 753)	\$1671.97	
Deduction for balance paid Delessert	112.48	
	<hr/>	
	\$1559.49	\$1559.49
Accounted for by Delessert (p. 761)		7791.80
Accounted for by Ward (p. 763)	\$310.38	
Deduction for balance paid Delessert	220.38	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 90.00	90.00
Accounted for by McDuffee (p. 765)	\$4045.00	
Deduction for balances paid treasurer	2811.36	
	<hr/>	
	\$1233.64	1233.64
	<hr/>	
		\$10674.93
		<hr/>

ANALYSIS OF DISBURSEMENTS

Rent		\$1525.00
(Vouchers S.* 3, D. 9, 44, 66, 67, 68, 97, 105, 106, 107)		
Salaries:		
Sergeant-at-arms†	\$1581.11	
(Vouchers S. 5, D. 16, 39, 51, 89, 90, 94, 98)		
Secretary	300.00	
(Vouchers 61, 92)		
Porter	257.00	
(Vouchers 37, 50, 54, and p. 765)		
	<hr/>	
	\$2138.11	\$2138.11
Headquarters:		
Labor	\$732.29	
(Vouchers 27, 59, 62, 80, 112)		
Equipment	689.00	
(Vouchers 22, 25, 26, 45, 46, 66, 91, 93, 114-118, 122)		
Stationery	167.38	
(Vouchers D. 1, 2, 23, 28, 102, 120)		
Oil and candles	326.17	
(Vouchers 20, 36, 53, 56, 69, 78, 79, 113, 126, 127)		
	<hr/>	
	\$1914.84	1914.84
	<hr/>	
	Forward	\$5577.95

* The series of vouchers filed by Salmon and Delessert are distinguished, when necessary, by the designations S. and D.

† See note, p. 822.

ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

	Forward	
Advertising		\$5577.95
(Vouchers S. 7, D. 17-19, 29, 34, 47, 48, 52, 70-72, 96, 109)		342.75
Water police and boat hire		1442.24
(Vouchers S. 2, 4, 6, D. 4, 8, 30, 33, 74, 76, 77, 81, 86-88, 95)		
Travel and pursuit of criminals		848.25
(Vouchers D. 6, 7, 10-12, 38, 40, 41, 99, 123)		
Passage of deported convicts		425.00
(Vouchers D. 5, 35, 43)		
Livery		231.00
(Vouchers 13, 15, 31, 32, 42, 55, 75)		
Refreshments, liquor, cigars, etc.:		
Liquor	192.50	
(Vouchers 14, 21, 57, 58, 101, 111)		
Liquor or refreshments, doubtful	298.00	
(Vouchers D. 3, 14, 49, 101, 121)		
Refreshments	132.71	
(Vouchers 20, 21, 53, 57, 100, 101, 122)		
Cigars	19.50	
(Vouchers 58, 101)		
	\$642.71	642.71
Sundry		645.45
(Vouchers S. 1, 9, 10, D. 24, 60, 63-65, 84, 85, 103, 104, 108, 110, 113, 119, 125)		
Unitemized balance in McDuffee's report:		
Expenditures (p. 765) plus balance on hand	\$1173.64	
Less vouchers 109-127	653.06	
	\$520.58	520.58
		\$10675.93
Deduction for an error in footing p. 759		1.00
		\$10674.93

* Sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment.

* Discharged.

* Sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

* Discharged.

* Fined \$500 and sentenced to three years' imprisonment, but pardoned.

(S. F. Herald, Nov. 18, Dec. 6, 1831).

* Acquitted (S. F. Herald, Nov. 13, 1831).

APPENDIX E

PRISONERS ARRESTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE

George Adams; larceny; handed over to authorities.¹
 Thomas Ainsworth; larceny; handed over to authorities.
 Ahone; keeper of a suspicious house; discharged.
 William Alderson; convict; deported.
 Alo; keeper of a suspicious house; discharged.
 J. J. Arentue; larceny and murder; handed over to authorities.²
 George Arthur; larceny; handed over to authorities.
 William Barclay; convict; deported.
 Antonio Barsallio; larceny; discharged (whipped?).
 Henry Beck; convict; discharged.
 James Burns, *alias* Jimmy from Town; larceny; handed over to authorities.³
 Thomas Burns; convict, keeper of a suspicious house; deported.
 Capt. Canning; murder; handed over to authorities.⁴
 Samuel Church; horse thief and deserter; handed over to army.
 William Clay; convict; deported.
 William Cummings; larceny; discharged.
 Dab, or Elleard; horse thief; released by Brannan.
 Theodore Dahlgrén; larceny; honorably discharged.
 Peter Davis; "desperate character"; discharged.
 Thomas Desmond; discharged.
 John Donnelly; convict; discharged.
 David Earl; larceny; ordered to leave California.
 Sylvanus Emerson; larceny; honorably discharged.
 Aaron Gainesborough; convict; ordered to leave California.
 Samuel Gallagher; murder; handed over to authorities.⁵
 Richard Garland; convict; deported.
 John Goff; convict; ordered to leave California.
 Antonio Gonzales; assault; handed over to authorities.⁶
 Eugenio Gonzales; larceny; discharged.
 W. F. Hance; murder in Panama; sent back to Panama.
 Handy.
 W. L. Harding; murder; discharged.

¹ Sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment.

² Discharged.

³ Sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

⁴ Discharged.

⁵ Fined \$500 and sentenced to three years' imprisonment, but pardoned (*S. F. Herald*, Nov. 18, Dec. 6, 1851).

⁶ Acquitted (*S. F. Herald*, Nov. 13, 1851).

PRISONERS ARRESTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE

Hanson Hathaway; larceny; discharged.
W. H. Hays; larceny; ordered to leave California.
John Hennessey; larceny; discharged(?).
James Hetherington; keeper of a suspicious house; deported.
Lawrence Higgins; convict immigrant; deported.
John Hobbs; convict immigrant; deported.
Mary Ann Hogan; keeper of a suspicious house; discharged.
George Hopkins; convict(?); deported.
Howard; deserter; handed over to army.
John Jenkins; larceny; convict(?); hanged.
Daniel Jenks; larceny; ordered to leave California.
Emma Jones; convict; ordered to leave California.
Thomas Jones; convict; ordered to leave California.
Dr. Kennedy; assault; handed over to authorities.
Francois Le Bras; murder; handed over to authorities.⁷
William Leonard; larceny; handed over to authorities.⁸
James Llewellyn; larceny; discharged.
William Lovegrove; larceny; discharged.
John Luckhurst; suspected immigrant; discharged.
John McDonald; drunk; discharged.
Robert McKenzie; larceny; hanged.
John Matson; arson; discharged.
Robert Ogden; convict; ordered to leave California.
Mrs. Ogden.
John Olligin; murder; discharged.
Daniel Peterson; larceny; discharged.
Justo Reyes; larceny; whipped, ordered to leave California.
James Roach; convict; deported.
Ben Robinson; arson; discharged.
Margaret L. Robinson; arson; discharged.
William Robinson; arson; discharged.
Michael Ryan; suspected immigrant; deported(?).
Martin Sanphy; "bad citizen"; ordered to leave California.
Mrs. Jane Sanphy; larceny; discharged.
Thomas Scott; "bad man"; deported.
Michael Slatterly; suspected immigrant; discharged.
Henry Smith; horse stealing; honorably discharged.
James Smith; larceny; discharged.
John Smith; larceny; honorably discharged.

⁷ Acquitted.

⁸ This arrest is not noted in the documents of the C. of V., but was reported in the *S. F. Herald*, July 19, 22, 1851. Leonard was acquitted. (*Herald*, Aug. 6.)

PRISONERS ARRESTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE

Thomas Speeding and wife; larceny; discharged.
 James Stuart; convict and murderer; hanged.
 John Sullivan; larceny; discharged.
 Patrick Sweeney; reputed convict; discharged.
 Hamilton Taft; larceny; handed over to authorities.
 Charles Talbot; arson; discharged.
 Alexander Thompson; impersonating member of C. of V.; discharged.
 David Thompson; larceny; discharged.
 James Tierney; larceny; discharged.
 Joseph Turner, *alias* Quick; convict, larceny; ordered to leave California.
 Mrs. Turner; ordered to leave California.
 John Ward; convict; ordered to leave California.
 James W. Warren; larceny; honorably discharged.
 James Webb; convict immigrant; discharged.
 Daniel Whilden; mutiny; discharged.
 Sam Whittaker; convict and thief; hanged.
 Patrick Wild; convict; deported.
 Richard Wilson; suspected convict; ordered to leave California.
 William Wilson; convict(?); discharged.
 Alexander Wright; convict; deported.

SUMMARY

Discharged	41
Handed over to authorities	15
Ordered to leave California	14
Deported	14
Hanged	4
Whipped	1
Undesignated	2
Total	91

* Indicate the more important members of Stuart's gang.

APPENDIX F

CRIMINALS IMPLICATED BY JAMES STUART AND HIS CONFEDERATES

George Adams.*	Mrs. Hogan.*	Robert Nelson.
Thomas Ainsworth.	Mat Hopwood, <i>alias</i>	William Nelson.*
J. J. Arenttrue.*	Big Brummy.*	Richard Osman.*
P. J. Barnes, the tin- man.	William Hughes, <i>alias</i> Swan.*	Palmer, the bird stuffer.
Henry Beck.	— Jackson.	James Peet.*
Bluey.	(The) Jew, trader, at Sacramento.	John Purcell, a police- man.*
Francis Brier.	Jones, <i>alias</i> Grice.	Mrs. Regan.*
Jim Briggs.*	John Jones.*	William Roach.
Jerry Brown.*	Joseph, <i>alias</i> Old Joe.	John Ryan.*
Jim Brown.*	Thomas Belcher Kay.*	Sam.
James Burns, <i>alias</i> Jimmy from Town.*	James Kelly.	— Seymour.
— Butler.	King, the barber.	Billy Shears.
Charley.*	William Kitchen.*	Smith, the gambler.
Little Charley.*	Harry Klegg.	George Smith.*
Long Charley.*	Dr. Lambert.	Jack Smith.
William Clay.	Jerry Long.*	Peter Smith.
Dab.*	Long Bill.	— Switzer, <i>alias</i> the Slasher.
John Darke.	Jack Lowe.*	Tallentine.
Charles Duane.	A. J. McCarty, police- man.*	Dick Terrel.
David Earl.*	Teddy McCormac.*	— Thibault.
Charles Edwards.	R. C. McIntire, police- man.*	Tom.
Edward Edwards.	Robert McKenzie.*	Joseph Turner, <i>alias</i> Quick.*
John Edwards.*	Joseph Marks.*	William Watkins.*
Malachi Fallon.	— Mathews.	Thomas Welsh.*
Aaron Gainesborough.	A. L. Melvin.	Sam Whittaker.*
William Gamble.	James Miner.	Wilson, a horse thief.
— Goldsmith.	James Moore.	William Windred.
William Gregory.	John Morris Morgan.*	Jane Yates.*
John Griffith.*		Thomas Yates.*
William Hays.*		

* Indicates the more important members of Stuart's gang.

APPENDIX G

LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE OF DOWNEVILLE

[Missing from the files, and reprinted from *Popular Tribunals*, I, 586, 587.]

Downieville, July 27, 1851.

To the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco:—

Gentlemen: The citizens of this place have organized a vigilance committee for the purpose of protecting life and property. At one of their meetings they passed a resolution instructing me as their corresponding secretary to communicate with the vigilance committee of your city, with the view of eliciting what information you may be disposed to favor us with in furtherance of the object we have in view. It is thought by keeping up a communication between the committees of the different points we might be of mutual assistance, by keeping each other advised of the movements of noted and suspicious characters. Any information, therefore, you may be so kind as to favor us with upon this subject will be both thankfully received and reciprocated by us. Our organization is quite complete, and we design to keep our doings a secret, except such as are from the nature of the case public. Therefore if you communicate with the committee of this place, please address your letters to me in my private capacity.

I remain, gentlemen, your humble servant,

A. M. BROCKELBANK.

APPENDIX H

PAPERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE WHICH REMAIN
UNPRINTED

Book of Fines of the Sergeant-at-arms. An alphabetic list of members who incurred fines by absence, with records of payment. $4 \times 12\frac{3}{4}$ inches in size; paper covers; indexed pages.

Petty Cash Book of the Sergeant-at-arms. Four pages, cut from a book about $4 \times 13\frac{1}{4}$ inches in size. The items recorded are generally covered by the printed reports and vouchers.

Reports of the examination of the following passenger vessels from Australia:

Adirondack, July 16. Report on 138 passengers, out of a list of 256. See p. 280, note 1.

Edgar, August 21. Report on 32 passengers out of a list of 120, and five members of the crew. See p. 544, note 3.

Henry Harbeck, August 5. Report on 21 passengers out of a list of 26. None undesirable. Not mentioned elsewhere.

John S. Potter, July 2. Report on 35 passengers out of a list of 37. See p. 134, note 2.

Johnsen (Johnstone), August 7. Report on 50 passengers out of a list of 125. See p. 437, note 4.

Mary Catherine, August 3. Report on 75 passengers out of a list of 100. See p. 409, note 1.

President, August 21. Report on 14 passengers. See p. 507, note 2.

Robert Bowne, August 16. Report on 114 passengers out of a list of 169. See p. 503, note 1.

In addition to the vessels here noted, the *California Courier* of June 16 reported the favorable examination of 15 passengers on the *Chief*. See p. 770, voucher 6.

Lists of subscribers to the fund collected for the San Francisco county jail. Thirty-seven collection sheets and check lists of receipts. Incomplete and often illegible. See p. 347, note 3.

Miscellaneous papers of no apparent value:

About 50 undated pages and fragments, which the editor has been unable to relate to other documents.

Drafts and duplicates of minutes, resolutions and reports which are printed in their revised form, occasional financial statements which are included in fuller and later reports, vouchers which record the transfer of funds between officers of the C. of V., bills which are not receipted, check lists of members made out for various purposes.

PAPERS WHICH REMAIN UNPRINTED

Printed circular of a jewelry raffle, announced by J. H. Robert, annotated with a list of the jewelry stolen from him on June 1. See p. 31, note 4.

Letter from Juan Harco to Señorita Jesusita, January 4, 1851. In Spanish, relating to the payment of money owing the writer. A post-script signed "José Chaparros."

Letter from Carmen Salsedo to "Querido (dear) Guillermo," May 19, 1851. In Spanish, a love letter, confined to personal matters. Addressed to Charles Seetsere (?), San Francisco.

Letter from Carmen Salsedo to Sr. Guillermo V. Swenboul, of Stockton. San Francisco, July 21, 1851. In Spanish, of the same character as the above, but warning the recipient that he is wanted by the police.

Letter from Catarino Navarros to Sr. D. Juana Ramirez. Stanislaus, August 6. In Spanish, personal.

LAURENCE, J. C. LAURENCE.

Recollections and Opinions of an old Pioneer. New York, 1880.

CALIFORNIA—GOVERNOR.

Record of the Governor's Executive Acts, 1850-1851. MS in State Library, Sacramento.

CLARK, FRANCIS D., compiler.

1848-1849. The First Regiment of New York Volunteers, Commanded by Col. Jonathan D. Stevenson. New York, 1849.

COCHRAN, SAMUEL, compiler.

Cochran's San Francisco Directory, Vol. 1, for the year commencing October, 1855; being a Gazetteer of the City, embracing a General and Business Register of Citizens, with Statistical Tables, Historical References, Biographical Notes, etc., prefaced by a History of San Francisco. . . . San Francisco, 1856.

CROFT, OLIVER R.

Statement, 1877. MS in Bancroft Library.

History of Contra Costa County, California. San Francisco, W. A. Stokes & Co., 1882.

History of Sacramento County, California. Oakland, Thompson & West, 1880.

History of Yuba County, California. Oakland, Thompson & West, 1879.

HUTVELL, THEODORE HENRY.

History of California. 4 vols. in 5. San Francisco, 1886.

KIMBALL, CHARLES P., compiler.

San Francisco City Directory, September 1, 1850. San Francisco, 1850. Reprinted, 1879 and 1893.*

*See Robert Ernest Cowen, *Bibliography of the History of California and the Pacific West, 1816-1900*. San Francisco, 1914, p. 69.

APPENDIX I

AUTHORITIES CITED

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Private Gold Coinage of California, 1849-55, its History and its Issues.
Brooklyn, 1913.

BANCROFT, HUBERT HOWE.

Popular Tribunals. 2 vols. San Francisco, 1887.

BARRY, THEODORE A., and PATTEN, B. A.

Men and Memories of San Francisco in the "Spring of '50." San
Francisco, 1873.

BLUXOME, ISAAC, Jr.

Statement. [1877?] MS in Bancroft Library.

BURNETT, PETER HARDEMAN.

Recollections and Opinions of an old Pioneer. New York, 1880.

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CLARK, FRANCIS D., compiler.

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by Col. Jonathan D. Stevenson. New York, 1882.

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October, 1856; being a Gazetteer of the City, embracing a General
and Business Register of Citizens, with Statistical Tables, Historical
References, Biographical Notes, etc., prefaced by a History of San
Francisco.... San Francisco, 1856.

CRARY, OLIVER B.

Statement. 1877. MS in Bancroft Library.

History of Contra Costa County, California. San Francisco, W. A. Slocum
& Co., 1882.

History of Sacramento County, California. Oakland, Thompson & West,
1880.

History of Yuba County, California. Oakland, Thompson & West, 1879.

HITTELL, THEODORE HENRY.

History of California. 4 vols. in 8. San Francisco, 1898.

KIMBALL, CHARLES P., compiler.

San Francisco City Directory, September 1, 1850. San Francisco, 1850.
Reprinted, 1870? and 1890?*

* See Robert Ernest Cowan, *Bibliography of the History of California
and the Pacific West*, 1510-1906. San Francisco, 1914, p. 69.

LE COUNT [JOSIAH J.] and STRONG [CHARLES L.] compilers.

Le Count and Strong's San Francisco City Directory for the Year 1854
... San Francisco, 1854.

McGOWAN, EDWARD.

Narrative of Edward McGowan, including a full Account of the Author's
Adventures and Perils while persecuted by the San Francisco Com-
mittee of Vigilance of 1856. San Francisco, 1857.

Papers of the San Francisco Committee of Vigilance of 1851. Parts I, II,
edited by Porter Garnett. Berkeley, 1910, 1911. (Publications of the
Academy of Pacific Coast History, Vol. 1, No. 7, and Vol. 2, No. 2.)

PARKER, JAMES M., compiler.

San Francisco Directory for the Year 1852-'53, embracing a General
Directory of Citizens, a Street Directory and a new and complete
Map of the City... San Francisco, 1852.

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY RECORDER.

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SCHENCK, GEORGE EVERETT.

Statement. 1877. MS in Bancroft Library.

SHUCK, OSCAR T.

Bench and Bar in California. San Francisco, 1889.

SOULÉ, FRANK, GIBON, JOHN H., and NISBET, JAMES.

The Annals of San Francisco; containing a Summary of the History of
... California, and a complete History of... its Great City... New
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SMILEY, THOMAS JOHN LOUD.

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ters and Journals. Ed... by J. H. Williams, Tacoma, 1913. (First
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Sacramento: *Daily Transcript*, *Daily Union*.

San Francisco: *Daily Alta California*, *California Courier*, *Evening Bulle-*
tin, *Evening Picayune*, *Pacific Star*, *San Francisco Daily Herald*,
Sunday Dispatch.

Sonora: *Herald*.

Stockton: *Journal*.

Sydney (N. S. W.): *Morning Herald*.

Collection of contemporary newspaper clippings on the Committee of
Vigilance. Bancroft Library.

NOTE ON THE INDEX

A problem of unusual difficulty was presented in compiling the index to this volume, as the papers follow each other without the slightest logical continuity, and only the most minute analysis could place their disordered contents at the service of the reader.

The abbreviations employed in the index are so obvious that explanation is unnecessary, but a few words are used with somewhat arbitrary significance. *Convict* always designates an ex-convict from the British colonies. When the standing was doubtful, it is so indicated by a question mark or the term *reputed*. Passengers from those colonies, examined before landing by the Committee of Vigilance, are termed *Immigrants*, and men of any nationality, accused of criminal tendencies, but not proven culprits, are termed *Suspects*. *Witness* is applied, broadly, to those who gave evidence by letter as well as in person. The few prisoners *Deported* were shipped out of the country under the actual supervision of the Committee, those *Ordered to leave California* were released under threats of punishment if they failed to obey.

In classifying the references to the members of the Committee, an effort has been made to segregate the formal allusions, as *Roll call* and *Official mention* from the *Personal* references that indicate the member's individual influence in the affairs of the association, but it must be pointed out that an occasional personal reference, occurring on the same page with an official notice, has not been given duplicate entry. A simple scheme of classification has been employed in assembling the larger groups, and references with no significant sequence are collected under the heading *Mentioned*.

Personal names are given as they are spelled in the text, with a preference for the correct form wherever that could be established, and alternate readings in brackets. The consequent length of many headings has led to the unusual method of separating caption and references by a colon, while groups of related pages are set off by semi-colons. Occasional footnotes show the form of a name as found in local directories of 1850 to 1856, even when identification with the person named in the text is not absolutely certain. To obviate, as far as possible, the confusion between surname, given name, and *alias*, a dash has been used to show that the Christian name is not given in the text. Judge, Doctor, Professor, etc., are printed in marks of quotation when the professional standing has not been verified. Names of vessels and of newspapers are printed in italics, and names of hotels and lodging houses are enclosed in marks of quotation. Fully identified geographical names are alphabetized under the correct spelling.

In order to preserve all available subject references, many duplicate entries have been made, and trivial allusions are sometimes noted. The Financial Accounts and Vouchers, and the Appendices, largely repetitions of the Minutes and Miscellaneous Papers, have been indexed only as they contain information not found elsewhere.

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* Colville's *San Francisco Directory*, 1856.

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† S. Beebe[e], Ludlow & Co.: *Kimball's San Francisco Directory*, 1850.

* Nathaniel Bennett, judge of the Supreme Court; *Colville's San Francisco Direc-
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† R. G. Berford, *List of Names Approved by the Committee of Qualification*, p. 18.

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* G. F. Botts: Parker's *San Francisco Directory*, 1852.

† Dr. A. J. Bowie: Parker's *San Francisco Directory*, 1852.

‡ Achille Brasseur: Parker's *San Francisco Directory*, 1852.

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* Benjamin S. Brooks; Bancroft, *Popular Tribunals*, I, p. 382.

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* L. S. Burritt: *Parker's San Francisco Directory*, 1852.

† This source is incorrectly cited as the *Day and Letter Book of the Secretary of State*.

† Soulé, *Annals of San Francisco*, p. 292.

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* The name of L. Tuffs is annotated "expelled" in the roll of members, but there is no record of such action. W. H. Parker is also annotated "expelled," probably by an error that recorded in the wrong line the sentence passed on J. B. M. Crooks. *Papers of the San Francisco Committee of Vigilance of 1851*, I.

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* E. C. Crosby: Parker's *San Francisco Directory*, 1852.

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* The theft of a large quantity of jewelry from the store of Duzzeau, on Sacramento street, San Francisco, was reported in the *Placer Times* of August 30, 1850.

† Thomas R. Eddies: Kimball's *San Francisco Directory*, 1850; T. R. Eddie: Parker's *San Francisco Directory*, 1852.

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* Sir Charles Augustus Fitzroy: Stephen's *Dictionary of National Biography*.

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* J. W. Freelon, attorney; Parker's *San Francisco Directory*, 1852.

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* James C. Holmes: Kimball's *San Francisco Directory*, 1850.

† Howison's Pier: Soulé, *Annals of San Francisco*, p. 292.

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* James McElroy; Parker's *San Francisco Directory*, 1852.

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† Henry A. Meiggs; Soule, *Annals of San Francisco*, p. 326.

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* Hampton North; Kimball's *San Francisco Directory*, 1850.

† Myron Norton, Assistant Justice of the Superior Court; *S. F. Herald*, Aug. 21, 1851.

‡ Dr. Robert R. Nuttall; Parker's *San Francisco Directory*, 1852; Robert K. Colville's *San Francisco Directory*, 1856.

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* Dr. P. M. O'Brien; Kimball's *San Francisco Directory*, 1850.

† William Otis Hall; *Alta*, August 18, 1851.

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* George R. Parbut; Colville's *San Francisco Directory*, 1856.

§ "J" occurs in Payran's signature on p. 374. The original document is missing from the files.

† Brannan opened the meeting in the chair, but Payran signed, as president, the report of the Santa Clara C. of V., which was presented at that date. *See* pp. 133 and 154.

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† Excused to avoid writ of habeas corpus; Bromley acted as pres. pro tem.

§ S. E. Woodworth served as chairman.

¶ Payran signed as sec'y.

* Phelan, J. and M., commission merchants; Parker's *San Francisco Directory*, 1852.

† Arthur Phillip: Stephen's *Dictionary of National Biography*.

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* Richard P. Robinson; List of policemen, *S. F. Herald*, Nov. 30, 1852.

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* Peleg Rush; *History of Santa Clara County*. Alley, Bowen & Co., 1881, p. 545.

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† Wilson Shannon, former governor of Ohio, was in California at this time: *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, VIII, 341.

* John Sim: Parker's *San Francisco Directory*, 1852.

† George Simpton; Parker's *San Francisco Directory*, 1852.

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* "James Smith, caught under a bed in Dr. Zeile's hospital"; *Alta California*, April 24, 1851.

† The references to this John Smith may cover two different suspects.

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* O. P. Stidger; *History of Yuba County*, p. 125.

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† "Jno. Sullivan" should be substituted for "Jas. Sullivan" in the text.

* David Sweeney; Kimball's *San Francisco Directory*, 1850.

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* Edwards C. Williams and John G. Meiggs, a brother of Henry A. Meiggs. (Editor's note.)

† Joseph Winrow; *S. F. Herald*, June 12, 1851.

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* Mrs. Jane Yates, *alias* Lambert, Adams, and Smith, was sentenced to one year for larceny; *S. F. Herald*, Sept. 16, Oct. 5, 15, 1851.

ERRATA

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- 23 *note* 23. Omit the M. from the name of Hall McAllister.
26 *note* 30. The verdict will be printed in the historical study of the Committee.
29 line 13. Substitute Jno. for Jas. Sullivan.
208 *note* 5. The reference should be to p. 235 *note* 36.
231 *note* 22. Substitute Sutter County for Yuba County, and August 13 for the date of the reference to the *Transcript*.
289 *note* 2. Substitute Lumm for Lamm.
354 line 33. Substitute Suwerkrop for Luwerkrop.
357 *note* 1. Substitute Arenttrue for Goff.
548 *note* 4. The election was held on September 3.
549 line 11. Insert Chairman after the name of J. B. Huie.
641 *note* 1. Substitute Berdue for Burdue.
694 line 2. Substitute Metcalf vs. Mellus et al. for Metcalf vs. Argenti.
711 line 20. Substitute Resolution for Police Order.
718 *note* 1. Substitute Campbell for Clark.

NOTE—Minor variations in the spelling of names are not corrected here, but are noted in the Index.

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26 note 26	The vessel will be placed in the harbor of the
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27 line 12	Robertson from the M. from the
28 note 2	The reference should be to the M. from the
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30 note 2	Robertson from the M. from the
31 line 23	Robertson from the M. from the
32 note 1	Robertson from the M. from the
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